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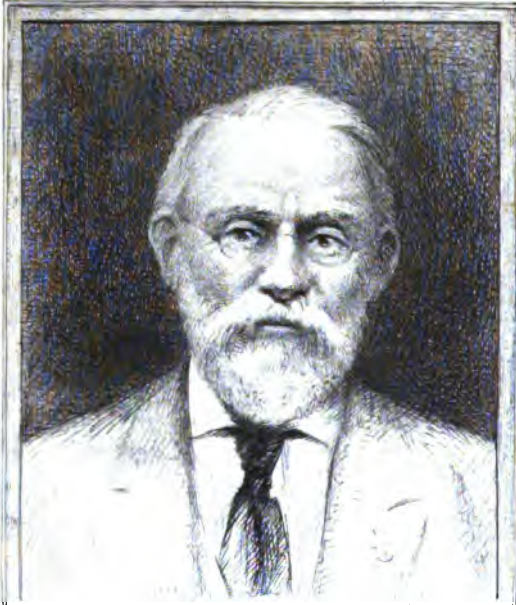
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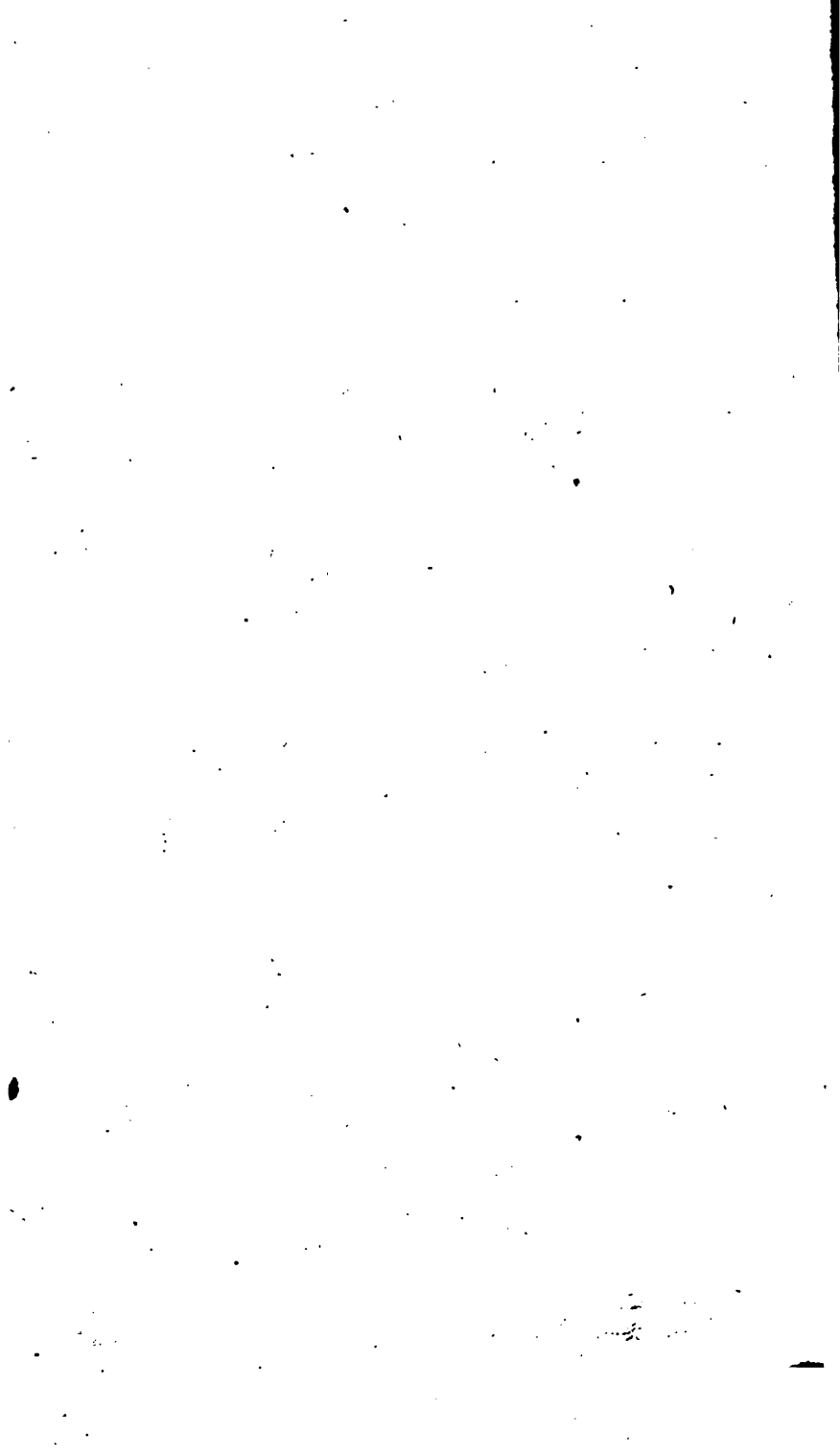
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V. 2







The WONDERFUL BRASS STATUE or
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V-O L. II.

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1804.

GRANGER'S WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

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††† It is recommended that the Volumes of this Work as they occur, may for the present be done up in boards, in order that the Whole at the Conclusion may be bound complete and uniform.

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A Catalogue of EMINENT and ILLUSTRIOUS PERSONAGES, who have rose either by MERIT or FORTUNE from the lowest ORIGIN.

THE Roman Emperor C. Julius Æmilanus, was a Moorish slave.

Abdallah, the father of the great Mohammed, was a slave and a camel-driver.

The celebrated Æschines, the disciple of Socrates, was the son of a sausage-maker.

Akiba, a famous Jewish Rabbi, who flourished A. D. 135, was a poor shepherd.

Publius Varus Alfenus, Consul of Rome, was a shoemaker.

Amadeddulat, Prince of Persia, A. D. 933, was a fisherman.

The Roman historian Sextus Victor Aurelius, was the son of an African slave.

Agathocles, the king of Sicily, was the son of a potter.

Aurelian, the Emperor of Rome, was the son of a poor peasant.

Anastasius the first, Emperor of the East, was born of very poor parents.

Anastasius the second, Emperor of the East, was a tradesman in low circumstances.

Alphtegin, governor of Rhorafen, was a Turkish slave.

The Roman general Auroleus was a peasant.

Pope Alexander the fifth was a common beggar in the Isle of Candia.

Pope Adrian the fourth, was a poor English Monk.

Pope Adrian the sixth, was educated on charity at Louvain.

Cardinal Acciaïoli, was born of very poor parents at Florence.

Cardinal Aberoni was a gardener's son.

Cardinal Sylvio Antoniano, was of very low parents, who were supported by charity.

The Spanish General Almagro, one of the conquerors of Peru, was born of extreme poor parents.

The great Moorish general Abdolmumen, was a potter.

Aartgen, a famous Dutch painter, was a wool-comber.

Martin Perez d'Ajara, Archbishop of Valencia, rose from a very mean station.

James Amyot, Bishop of Auxerre, in France, was a peasant's son.

The French Poet Pillaut Adam, was a carpenter.

The Dutchess of Albemarle, the wife of General Monk, was the daughter of a blacksmith, and her mother was a female barber.

The celebrated Hyder Ally was a common seapoy.

Vizier Ally, the late nabob of Oude, was the son of a sweeper.

Sir Richard Arkwright, the great cotton manufacturer, and who acquired a fortune of half a million of money, was a poor barber.

George Anderson, the celebrated mathematician, who died in 1796, was the son of a peasant, and he himself was obliged to work as a day-labourer.

The Spanish general Antonio de Lueyva, was a private soldier.

Archbishop Abbot was educated and maintained by public charity.

The Imperial general Aldringer, was promoted from a common soldier.

Colonel Daniel Axtell, who fought in the parliament's army, was a grocer's errand-boy.

Basalius, the Emperor of the East, was a private soldier.

Pope Boniface the fourth was a doctor's son.

Pope Benedict the 11th was a shepherd's son, and his mother was a washerwoman.

Engraved for the Universal Magazine.



For J. Hinton at the Kings Arms in Newgate Street.



Pope Benedict the 12th was a baker's son.

Cardinal John Balu, was born of extreme poor parents.

The celebrated French admiral Jean Bart was a common sailor.

Barbarossa, Dey of Algiers, was a common pirate.

John d'Olden Barneveldt, the celebrated Dutch statesman, rose by his merit from the meanest situation.

Edmund Bonner, bishop of London, was the son of a poor peasant.

The celebrated John Bunyan was a tinker.

The celebrated Berenicius, who understood all the known languages in the world, and knew by heart Horace, Virgil, Homer, &c. was a chimney-sweeper.

Barbœuf, one of the leading actors in the French revolution, was a footman.

The ingenious Scotch poet Burns, was a plough-boy.

The Athenian general Cleon, was a tanner at Athens.

The great Roman general Coriolanus was a private soldier.

Cathesbeius, Sultan of Egypt, was a slave.

Pope Celestinus was a poor hermit.

One of the empresses of China was a mason's daughter.

The Italian general Castruccio, was a foundling and brought up by charity.

Catharine the first, empress of Russia, was a peasant's daughter, and was first married to a common soldier.

Robert Cochran, created earl of Mar by James the third of Scotland, was a timber-merchant and builder.

The celebrated admiral Christopher Columbus, was a wool-comber's son at Genoa.

Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, was the son of a blacksmith at Putney.

Colbert, the celebrated French statesman, was a silk weaver's son.

Pope Clement the 14th was a doctor's son.

Cardinal Nicholas d'Cusa rose from a wretched condition.

William Chappel, the bishop of Cork, in James the first's reign, was of very low origin.

Pollidoro Caravaggio, an Italian painter, was a day-labourer at Rome.

Archbishop Cranmer, was born of very poor parents.

Captain James Cook, the great Circumnavigator, was a peasant's son.

The celebrated English general Lord Clive, was a writer to the East India Company.

Admiral John Campbell, was apprentice to a Scotch coaster.

The French general M. D. Chevres, was a common soldier.

The English general Cockburn, was a private soldier.

David king of Israel, was a poor shepherd's boy.

The Roman emperor Dioclesian, was a private soldier.

The Prussian general Dorfling, was a taylor.

The celebrated stoic philosopher Epictetus, was the slave of Epaphroditus.

The marquis Ensenada, a celebrated Spanish statesman, was born of such poor parents, that they could hardly bring him up.

The Roman Emperor Eugenius was an obscure man.

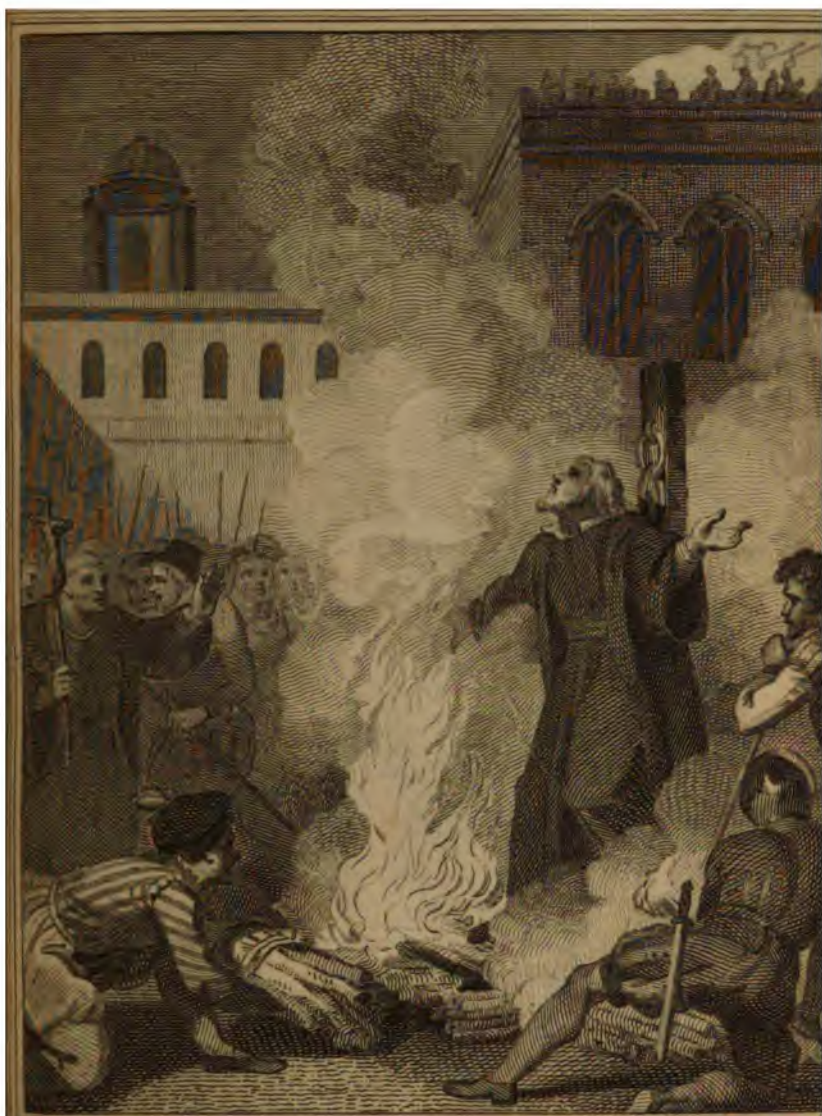
Sir Richard Empson, the favourite of Henry the seventh of England, was a sieve-maker's son at Towcaster.

Egurina, queen of Edward the Elder, King of England, was a shepherd's daughter.

Matthew Elias, a famous French painter, was a shepherd.

The French Mareshall Fabert was a private soldier.

James Ferguson, a celebrated Scotch philosopher and mathematician, was a poor shepherd.



THE
BURNING OF ARCHBISHOP GRANMER.





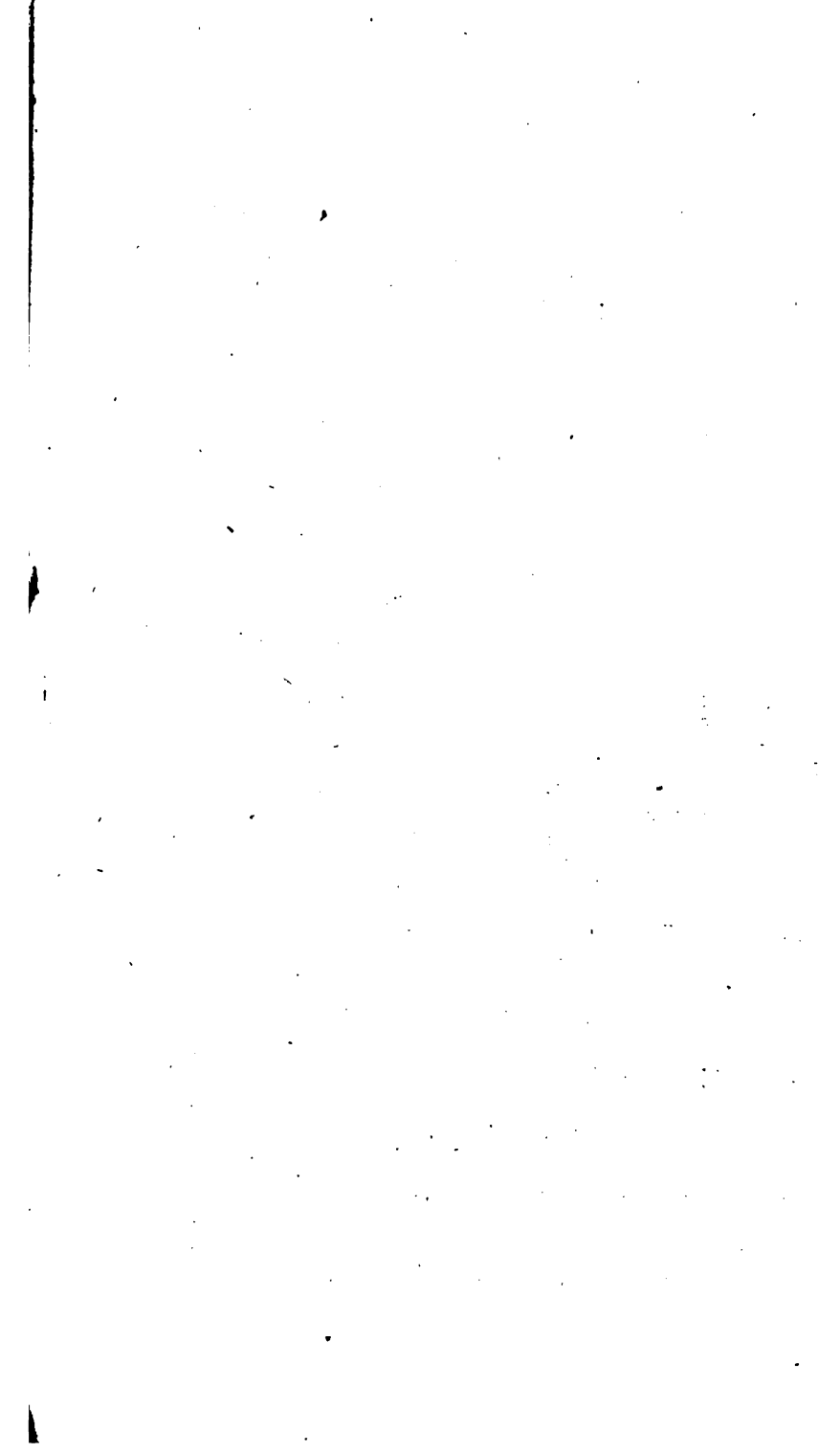
Capt. JAMES COOK, F.R.S.

Bolton, Pinxt.

Looney, Sculp.

Published by Authority, July 16, 1784. by W. Burt, Paternoster Row.







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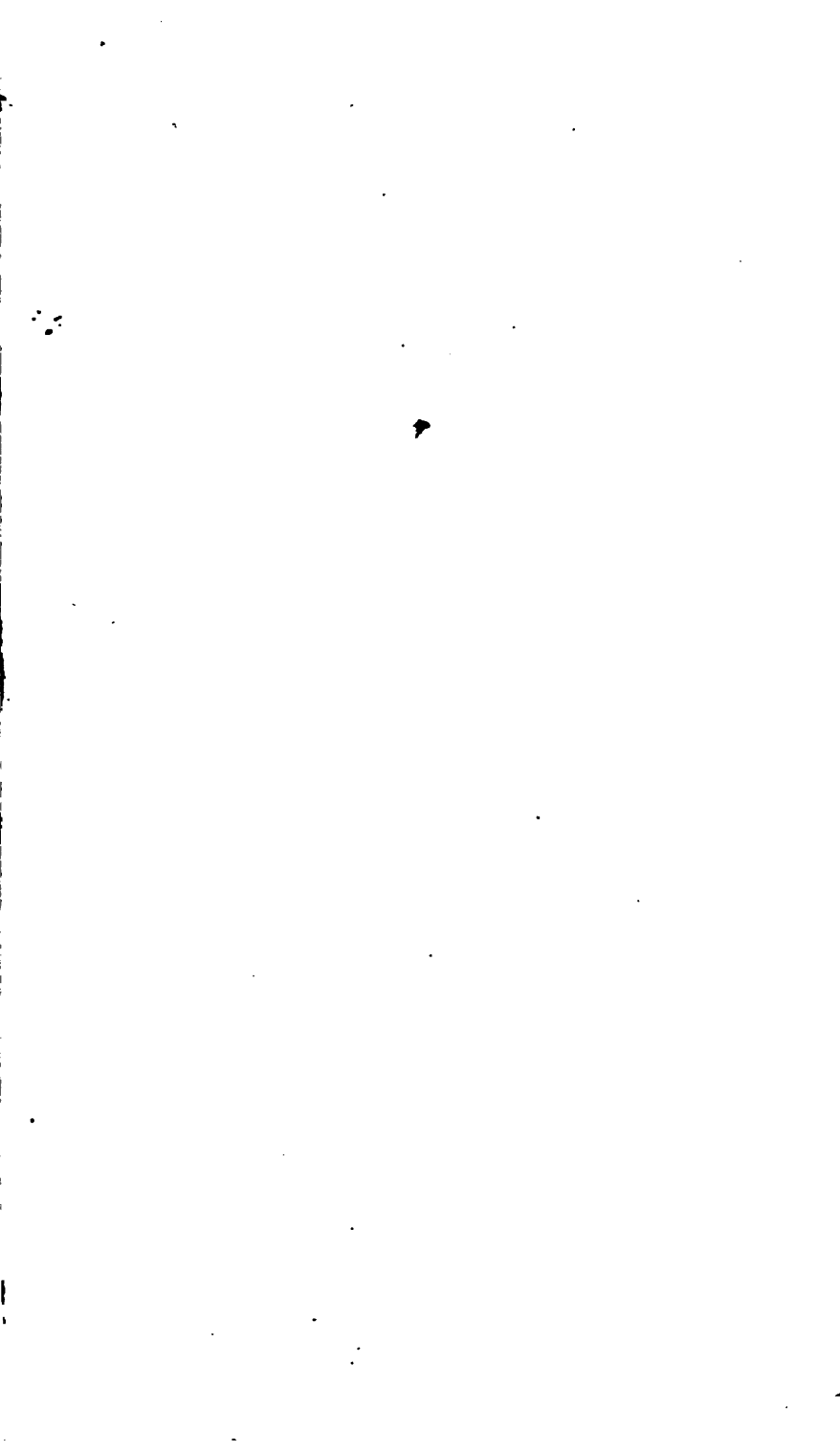


DEATH of Cap! COOK.

July 1, 1781, by S. J. Gamberlege, Untermyer Rev.

















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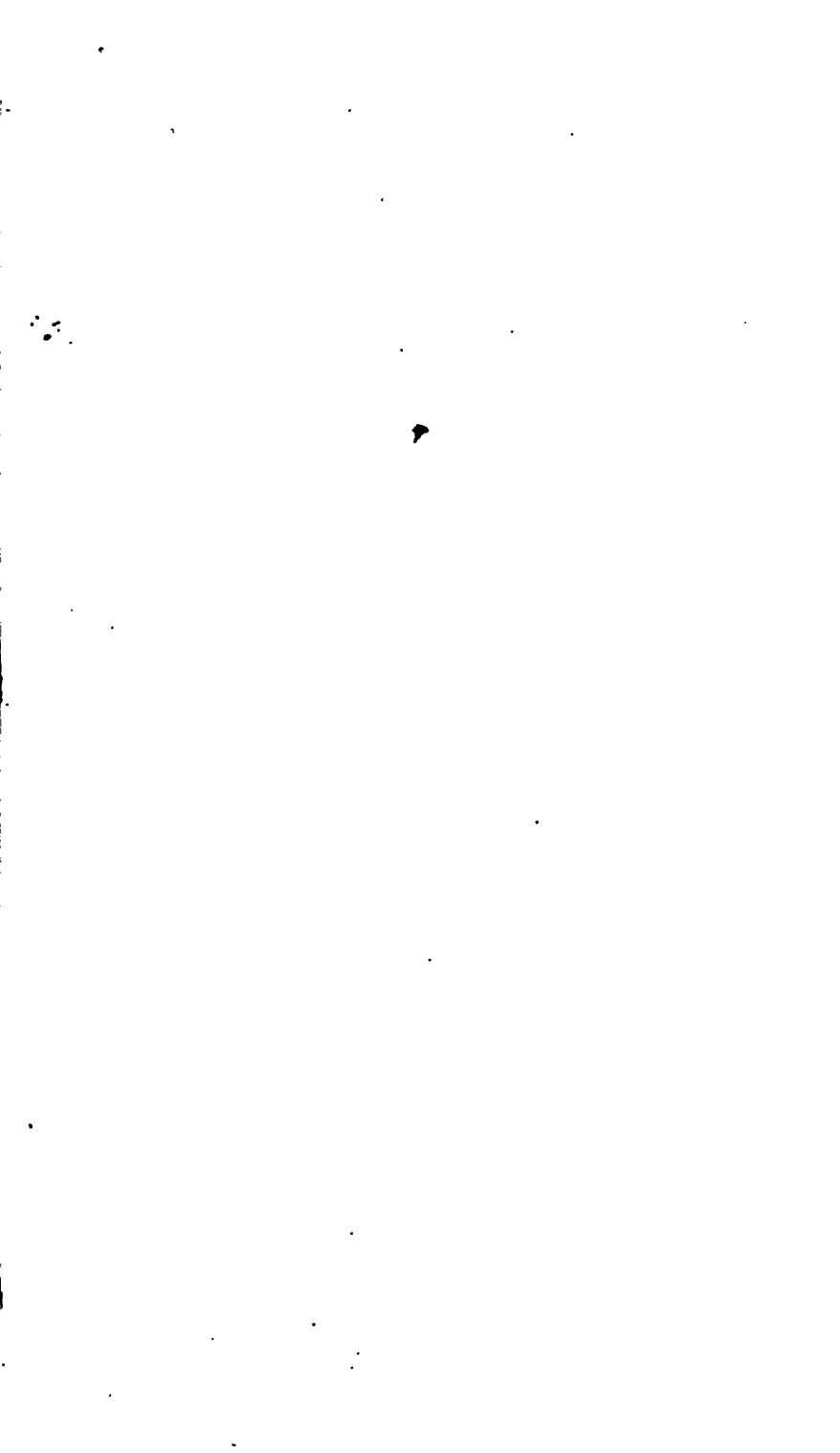


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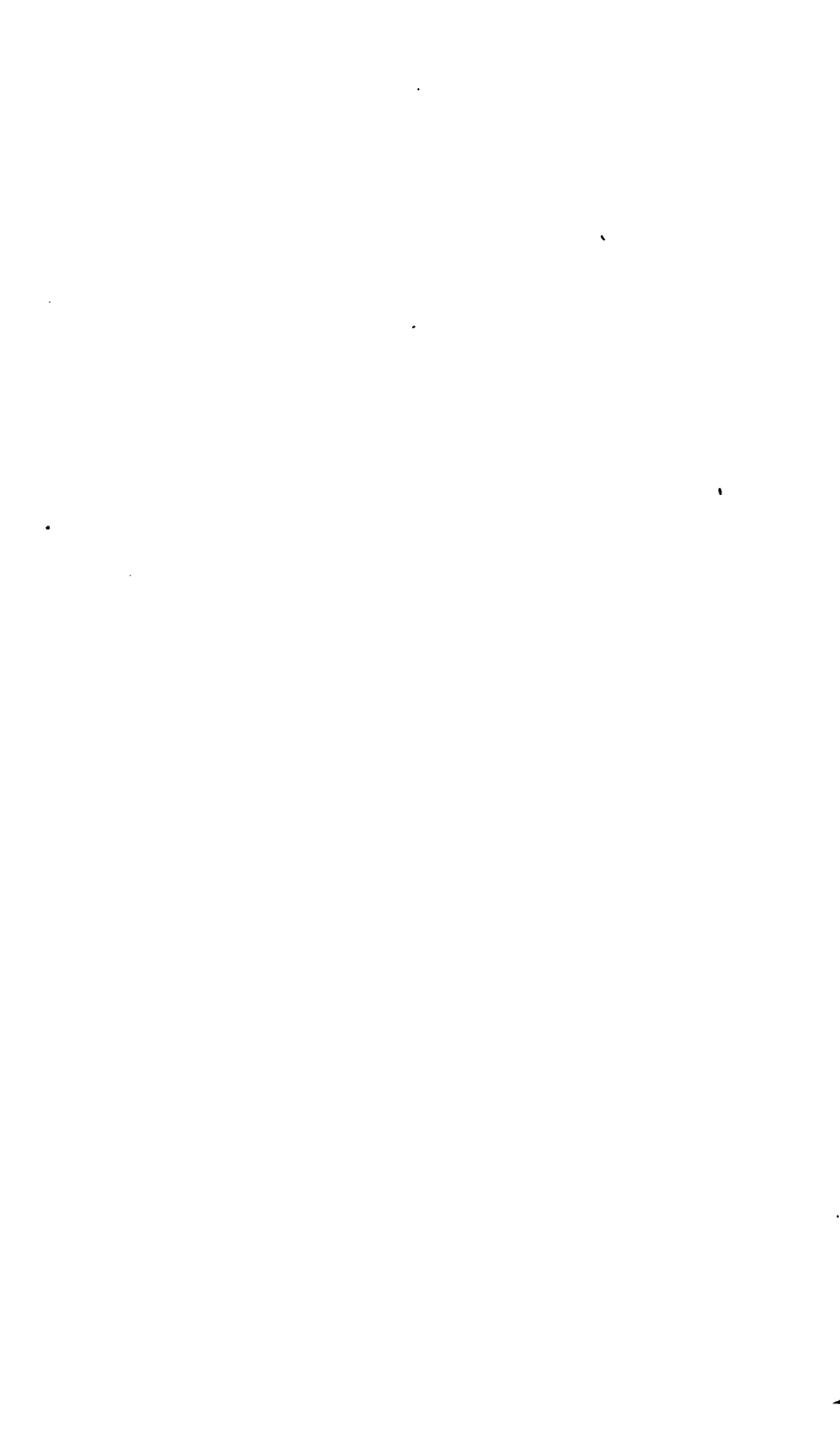








YORKE Earl of **HARDWICKE**.





John Donne

Engraved by J. Freeman, from an original picture

The Roman Emperor Gratian was a private soldier.

Pope Gregory the seventh was the son of a journeyman carpenter.

The Roman general Gratian, and father of the Emperor Valentinian the first, was a common soldier.

Archbishop Grindal was born of very poor parents.

The celebrated Italian writer, John Baptist Gelli, was a taylor.

Herod the great rose from a very low situation.

Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great, was a peasant's daughter.

The English general Sir John Hawkwood, was a taylor.

Colonel John Harrison, who fought in the parliament's army, was a butcher's son.

The English admiral Hopson was a taylor; he was knighted by Queen Anne for his bravery.

The Dutch admiral Peter Hein, was a poor fisherman.

Sir Richard Hotham, who died in 1799, was a hatter in the Strand.

The Lord Chancellor Hardwicke was an attorney's clerk.

Cardinal Hosius was born of poor parents at Cracow.

Haquin, King of Sweden, was a peasant's son.

Colonel Hewson, who fought in the parliament's army, was a cobbler.

The French general Hoche was the son of an hostler.

Justin the first, Emperor of the West, was a swineherd.

The celebrated Joan of Arc, was a servant at an inn.

Pope John the 21st was a doctor's son.

Iphicrates, the renowned Athenian general, was a person in the most wretched condition.

The celebrated poet Benjamin Johnson was a bricklayer.

That eminent architect Inigo Jones, was a journeyman carpenter.

Henry Jones, an Irish dramatic writer, was a brick-layer's labourer.

That great conqueror Kouli Khan was a shepherd's son in Persia.

Leo the first, Emperor of the East, was a Thracian of obscure birth.

Leo the third, Emperor of the East, was the son of a poor mechanic.

Leo the sixth, Emperor of the East, was a private soldier.

Pope Leo the third, was the son of a poor mechanic.

The Roman Emperor Licinius, was the son of a peasant in Dalmatia.

Lyfippus, the famous Grecian sculptor, was a blacksmith.

Martin Luther, the great reformer, was born of very poor parents in Saxony. He worked in the mines.

Sir George Lisle, who fought against the parliament's army, was a bookseller's apprentice in London.

Admiral Sir John Lawson rose from a cabin-boy.

William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a wool-comber's son.

Colonel John Lilburn, who fought in the parliament's army, was a book-binder.

The French general Laubanie, was a private soldier.

Lese the second, King of Poland, was born of poor parents.

Michael the second, Emperor of the East, was born of very poor parents.

Michael the fourth, Emperor of the East, was an obscure man.

The Roman Emperor Macrizianus, rose from the meanest station.

The Roman general Macrianus, was a private soldier.

The Roman Emperor Marcianus, was born of poor parents.

The

The Roman Emperor Magnentius was a common soldier.

The Roman Emperor Valerius Maximinus was a common soldier.

Valerius Galerius Maximianus, Emperor of the East, was a shepherd in Dacia.

The celebrated Maffaniello was a fishmonger at Naples.

Andrea Mantegnie, an Italian painter, was a shepherd.

Alexander Menzikoff, Prince of the Russian Empire, was the son of a peasant, and the servant of a pastry-cook, who employed him to cry pies about the streets.

St. Macarius, a famous Anchoret of the fourth century, was a baker at Alexandria.

Cardinal George Martinusius was born of very poor parents in Croatia.

Cosmo Medicis, the founder of an illustrious family at Florence, was a tradesman.

Isaac Maddox, Bishop of Worcester, was a pastry-cook.

The celebrated general Moreau was a private soldier.

Doctor Moore, the present Archbishop of Canterbury, is the son of a butcher at Gloucester.

Nicon, the Patriarch of Russia in 1658, was a poor Russian monk.

Cardinal D'Offat was born of extreme poor parents.

Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome, was a poor man.

The Roman Emperor Pertinax was a slave.

The Roman Emperor Marcus Jullus Philip, was a common soldier.

The Roman Emperor Probus was a gardener's son.

Premislaus, the third King of Poland, was a husbandman.

The Marquis Pizarro, the conqueror of Peru, was born of very poor parents.

Carravaggio d'Pollidoro, an eminent Italian painter, was a day-labourer at Rome.

Juan d'Pareja, an eminent painter, was a slave in the West Indies.

The celebrated Comic Poet Syrus Publius was a slave.

Colonel Pride, who fought in the parliament's army, was a drayman.

Bishop Parker was born of very poor parents.

General Pichegru, was a private in the first regiment of artillery in the reign of Louis XVI.

Archbishop Potter was the servant of the college where he was brought up.

Romanus the first, Emperor of the East, was a private soldier.

The Italian General Rienze was of very mean extraction.

The celebrated French poet Rousseau was a shoe-maker's son.

The French general Rose was a private soldier.

The French general Santerre was a common brewer.

The Right Honourable John Scott, Earl of Clonmell, was the son of a poor clergyman—died 1798.

Sandrocottus, an Indian general, in the time of Alexander the Great, was a slave.

Tullius Servius, the sixth King of Rome, was the son of a slave.

The Thracian general Sparcatius was a shepherd.

The Roman Emperor, Serverus the second, was an obscure man of Illyrium.

Pope Sixtus the fourth, was a fisherman's son.

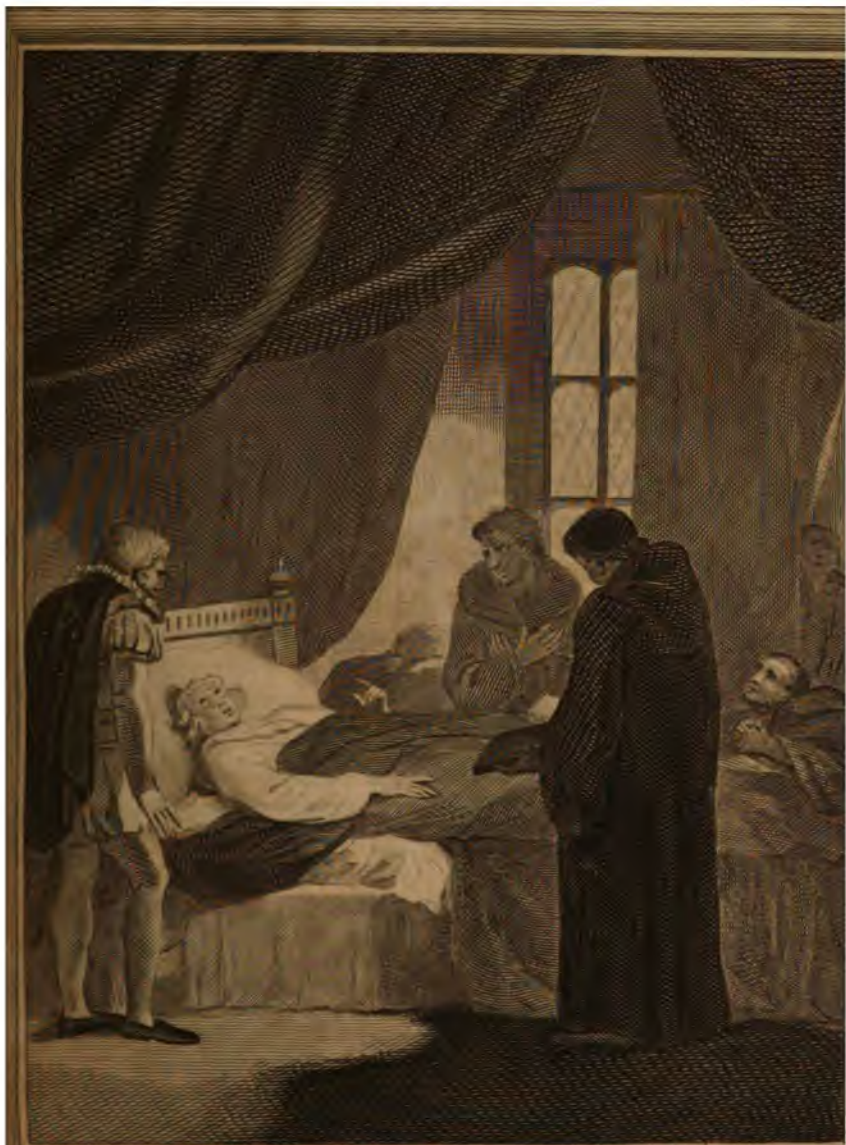
Pope Sixtus the fifth, was a gardener's son.

Pope Silvester the second, rose from a very low situation.

James Sforza, the great Count de Corignoli, was the son of a poor labourer.

Sir Edmund Saunders, a judge in the reign of Charles the Second, was a common beggar.

The



THE
DEATH OF CARDINAL WOLSEY

593

The English general Salter, was advanced from a common soldier.

Admiral Sir Cloudefly Shovel was a cabin-boy.

Sir William Staines, Lord Mayor of London, was a bricklayer's labourer.

That great conqueror Tamerlane, was the son of a poor shepherd.

Van Tromp, the celebrated Dutch admiral, was promoted from a common sailor.

Jeremy Taylor, the Bishop of Down and Connor, was a barber's son at Cambridge.

John Taylor, Archdeacon of Buckingham, was a barber's son at Shrewsbury.

John Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a weaver's son of Yorkshire.

The French admiral Dugai Trouin was a common sailor.

Sir John Fabor was an apprentice to an apothecary at Cambridge.

The Roman Emperor Vespasian was descended from an obscure family at Reite.

Nicholas Ursus, a Swedish astronomer, was a swineherd.

Cardinal Woolsey was the son of a butcher at Ipswich, in Suffolk.

The Abbe Winckelman, a celebrated antiquarian, was a shoemaker's son.

William the Conqueror was a bastard, and his mother a tanner's daughter.

Sir Richard Whittington, Lord Mayor of London, was of very low origin, and his first place was that of scullion.

Doctor Whitgift, Archbishop of Canterbury, was born of poor parents.

Willegis, Archbishop of Mentz, was the son of a wheelwright.

N. B. We shall occasionally give ample accounts of many of the most remarkable characters included in the above list.

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*A Remarkable MUSICAL PARROT.*

THE celebrated composer Vogler is a great friend of Birds, and has always a number of them in the room where he composes : among others he was complimented with a beautiful parrot, the exceeding fine voice of which tempted him to try an experiment. Accordingly he sang and played the scale to him, but to no purpose ; until he perceived the bird attentive to D upon the fourth line in the treble ; he then began by that note, and the bird soon attained a full octave upwards ; but to keep him in tune and spirits, he used to shew him a chefnut as a reward. Now he endeavoured to bring him higher, but the effort of the bird was truly laughable ; he tried the note, and finding it too hard for him, he set up a screaming with all his might, beat his wings against the cage, and appeared in the utmost agitation. Vogler then composed some airs to the compass of his pupil's voice, which he readily learned ; and now the bird knew that a chefnut was his recompence for good performance, whenever he got an appetite to his favourite food, he began one or more of his airs, to the astonishment of all hearers. Another curiosity was, that when Vogler sat down to the harpsichord to try some new composition, the bird began to sing piano with his usual airs, but only one or two different notes, which were generally a consonant, viz. 8, 5, or 3.

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THE above account of the Parrot which belonged to the celebrated Vogler, though certainly very extraordinary, is so much below the story of a parrot, which the great Mr. Locke has introduced in his Essay, that perhaps the following

lowing extract may, at this time, be acceptable to our readers.

"I had a mind to know, from Prince Maurice's own mouth, the account of a common, but much credited story, that I had heard so often from many others, of an old parrot he had in Brazil, during his government there; that spoke and asked, and answered common questions like a reasonable creature; so that those of his train there, generally concluded it to be witchery, or possession; and one of his chaplains, who lived long afterwards in Holland, could never from that time endure a parrot, but said they all had a devil in them.

I had heard many particulars of this story, and asserted by people hard to be discredited, which made me ask Prince Maurice what there was of it. He said, with his usual plainness and dryness of talk, there was something true, but a great deal false, of what had been reported. I desired to know of him what there was of the first.

He told me short and coldly, that he had heard of such an old parrot, when he came to Brazil; and though he believed nothing of it, and it was a good way off, yet he had so much curiosity as to send for it, and that it was a very great and old one; and when it first came into the room where the Prince was, with a great many Dutchmen about him, it said presently, "What a company of white men are here!"

They asked it what it thought that man was, pointing at the Prince. It answered, "some General or other." When they brought it close to him, he asked it, "Whence came you?" It answered, "from Marignan."—The Prince—"to whom do you belong?" The parrot—"to a Portuguese." Prince—"What do you do there?" Parrot answered—"I look after the chickens." The Prince laughed and said,—"You look after the chickens?" Parrot answered—"Yes, I; and I know well enough how to do it:" and

made the chuck four or five times, that people use to chickens when they call them.

I asked him in what language the parrot spoke, and he said in Brazilian. I asked him whether he understood the Brazilian? He said, no; but he had taken care to have two interpreters by him; the one a Dutchman, that spoke Brazilian, and the other a Brazilian, that spoke Dutch; that he asked them separately and privately, and both of them agreed in telling him just the same thing that the parrot said.

I could not but tell this odd story, because it is so much out of the way, and from the first hand, and what may pass for a good one. For I dare say this Prince, at least, believed himself in all he told me, having ever passed for a very honest and pious man.

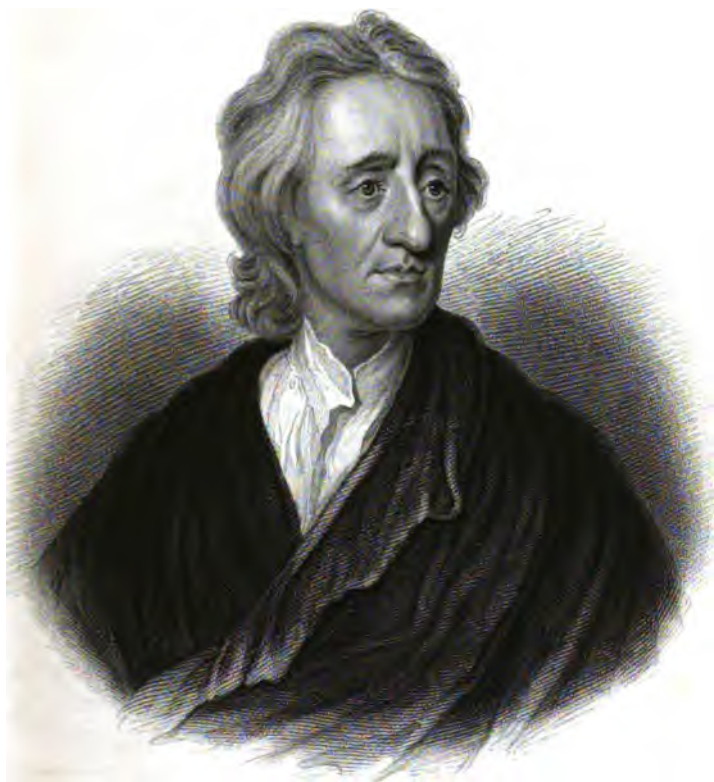
I leave it to naturalists to reason, and other men to believe as they please upon it; however, it is not perhaps amiss to relieve or enliven a busy scene sometimes with such digressions, whether to the purpose or no."

This account Mr. Locke has introduced into his Chapter of Identity, and by employing it in the illustration of a deep argumentative subject, it is probable he credited the whole himself, or at least thought it an event not unworthy of philosophical attention. The account is taken by Mr. Locke from a work of Sir William Temple, an author of great veracity and information.

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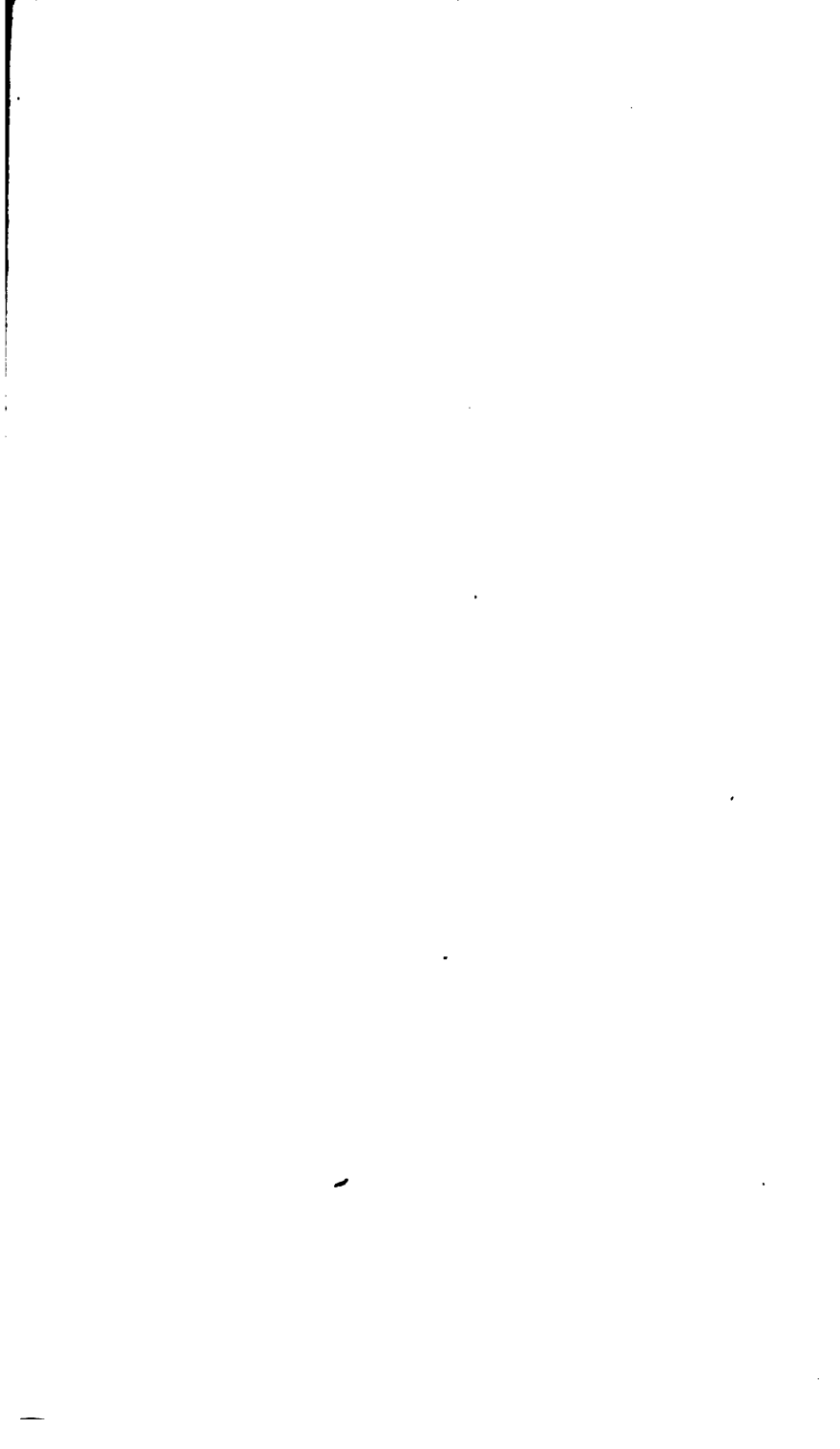
The following is the Origin of the o'd Adage: "If it rain on ST. SWITHIN'S DAY, there will be rain, more or less, for forty-five succeeding Days.

IN the year 865, St. Swithin, Bishop of Winchester, to which rank he was raised by King Ethelwolfe the Dane, dying, was canonized by the then Pope. He was singular for his desire to be buried in the open church-yard, and not in the chancel of the minster, as was usual with other Bishops,



John Locke

*Engraved by W. Greenman
from a Portrait by Sir G. Kneller*



shops, which request was complied with ; but the Monks, on being canonized, taking it into their heads that it was disgraceful for the saint to lie in the open church-yard, resolved to remove his body into the choir, which was to have been done with solemn procession on the 15th of July. It rained, however, so violently on that day, and for forty days succeeding, as had hardly ever been known, which made them set aside their design as heretical and blasphemous ; and instead they erected a chapel over his grave, at which many miracles were said to have been wrought.

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*A Singular INSCRIPTION on a TOMB-STONE in BOLTON Church-Yard, Lancashire.*

**T**HOMAS OKEY, the son of God, was born in London 1608—came into this town 1629—married Mary the daughter of James Crampton, of Brightwel, 1635, with whom he lived comfortably twenty years, and begot four sons and six daughters ; since then he lived sole till the day of his death.

In his time were many great changes, and terrible alterations—eighteen years civil war in England, besides many dreadful sea-fights—the crown and command of England changed eight times—Episcopacy laid aside fourteen years—London burnt by Papists, and more stately built again—Germany washed 300 miles—200,000 Protestants murdered by Papists—this town thrice stormed, once taken and plundered.—He went through many troubles and divers conditions ;—found rest, joy, and happiness only in holiness, the faith, fear, and love of God and Jesus Christ.—Died the 29th April and lieth here buried, 1684.

Come Lord Jesus,  
O, Come quickly.

*The Remarkable Petition of WILLIAM SMITH, an unhappy Convict, under Sentence of Death in Newgate, for Forgery, September 18, 1750, directed to the Lords of the Regency, and who was afterwards executed:*

Sheweth,

**T**HAT your petitioner was indicted at the Old Bailey, for forging a receipt in the name of Thomas Weeks, on the back of a Bill of Exchange for 45*l.* and receiving the contents; to which, as conscious of his crime, he made no hesitation of pleading guilty, and threw all his hopes of life upon the clemency of the Legislature.

That your petitioner is the son of the Rev. John Smith, rector of Kilmare, in the diocese of Meath, within the kingdom of Ireland, deceased; a man of unblemished character; and exemplary virtue, who gave your petitioner a liberal education. But alas! to what a fatal end has that paternal indulgence been perverted!

Thoroughly conscious of his infringement upon the general band of society, and his violation of the sacred laws of the kingdom, your petitioner owns the rectitude of that justice which has devoted him a victim to a premature and ignominious death. But your petitioner has the plea of necessity to urge in alleviation of his crime.

It is the only time he ever appeared as a criminal before the tribunal of Justice. His afflicted heart throbs with all the pangs of remorse and sorrow; his distracted soul feels all the anguish of shame and contrition; while he humbly hopes, while he penitentially implores the mercy of the Legislature, that mercy which can relieve the sinking wretch from all the horrors of imminent destruction, that mercy which can prolong a forfeited life.

May heaven graciously incline the ear of power to gratify  
my

my penitent solicitation ! Oh may I find the restoration of life ! but that my life be no longer continued, than every action of it proves your petitioner meritorious of the royal clemency.

That I am guilty of those crimes is too fatally verified by my own confession. I have been no further obnoxious to the community, have no further trespassed upon the laws of my country. I have strong sensations of right and wrong, of equity and justice.

But, unhappy for me, necessity in those unguarded moments drove reason from her throne, and extinguished the precious sentiments of honour and of honesty.

Mercy is the divinest attribute of the Deity : Oh ! extend your Excellencies clemency to an unfortunate man, recall a poor wretch from the verge of perdition ; grant him but life, and dispose of him as you please.

How melancholy is the consideration of being launched into the gulph of eternity ! dreadful thought ! to be plunged in the arms of death in the very prime of life ! But miserable wretch that I am, I have entailed all this calamity on myself ; I have incurred the rigour of the law : but alas ! I tremble at the dreadful, the ignominious execution of it.

Spare, oh ! spare a repenting sinner ! prolong a life that shall be solely employ'd in atoning for my crimes : and may I be an exile from the throne of celestial grace, if my penitence and contrition is not proportioned to my guilt.

The eternal glorious author of my being can penetrate to the most latent recesses of the soul, and surely that awful power never filled the human heart with more sorrow than mine. Apply the soothing balm of comfort to the afflicted soul ! commiserate an unhappy man, who has no merciful intercessor, no charitable hand to raise him. My great Creator may render this forfeited life none of the most invaluable among society.

If

If mercy approaches me in this world, my days shall be consecrated to the sincerest repentance. But if I am unhappily precluded from the clemency of the legislature, not mine but thy will, O Lord, be done.

So fervently prayeth the lost and unhappy

W. SMITH.

\* \* For a full account of this unfortunate man, we refer our readers to Jackson's new Newgate Calendar, now publishing in weekly numbers, a most useful and entertaining work, well worth the perusal of people of all descriptions.

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ROGER CRABB, a *Singular* HERMIT.

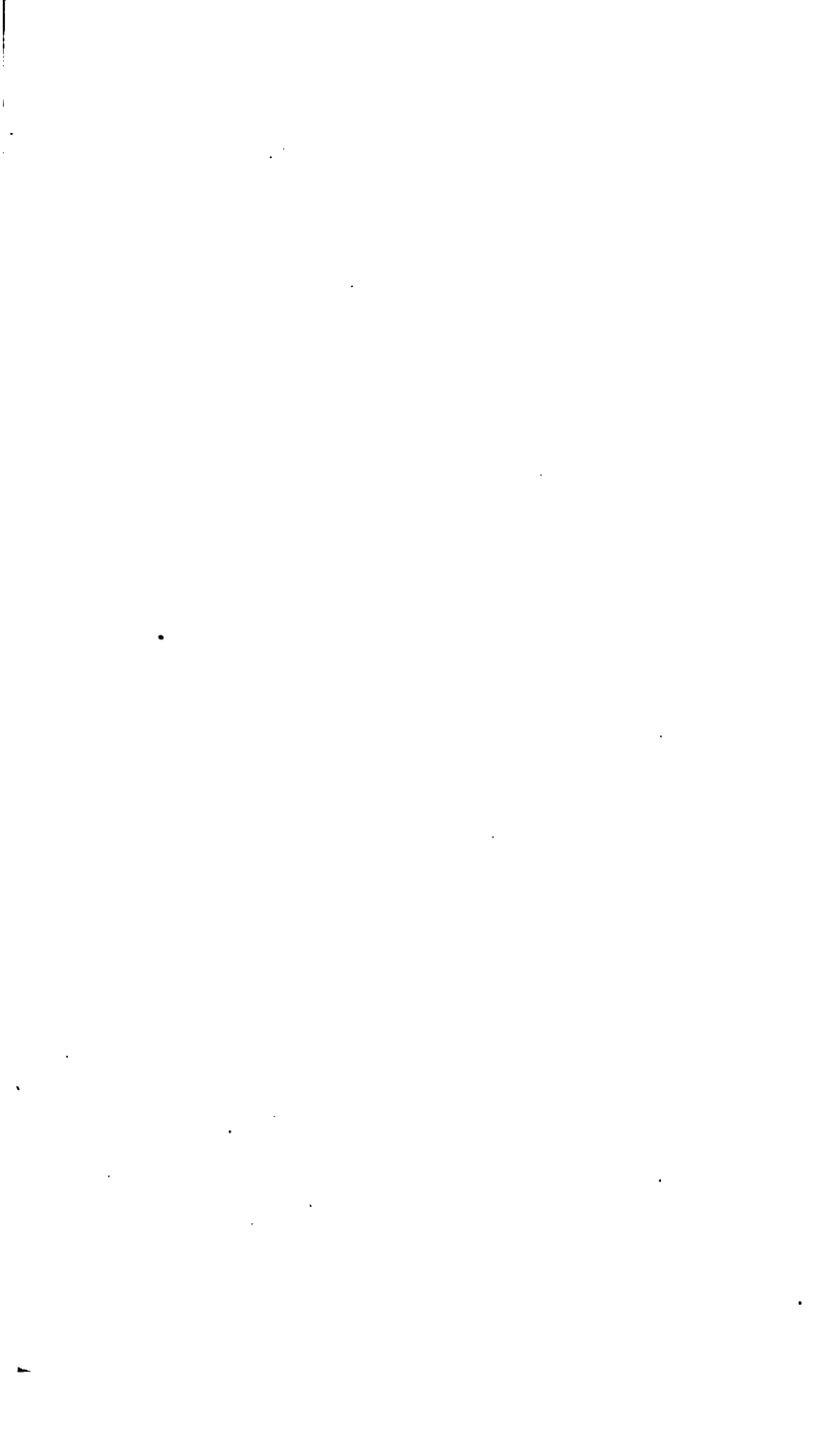
THIS remarkable man was born in Buckinghamshire, and originally bred up to the business of a hatter. His assiduity in his calling, and his peculiar manner, contributed to increase his trade so fast, that before he was twenty-six, he purchased an estate, and proved one of the richest tradesmen in all Chesham, where he then kept shop. In this manner he lived for some years, and with the utmost diligence applied himself to read and understand the Scriptures, and both day and night was seen praying either behind his counter, or in any other place he happened to be in. He appears to have had much of the enthusiast in his disposition, and his love of seclusion served to increase his gloom. He then formed the resolution of becoming the leader of a sect, and working the salvation of his countrymen, whom he imagined were all far advanced in the road to perdition. Filled with this resolution, he sold off his shop, goods, and estate, and distributed the money among the poor in order literally to fulfill the scripture. He was of a very philanthropic disposition, for in his writings he observes that man was born not the tyrant, but the friend, of animated life ; and that not a single sparrow falls without the divine permission. He alledges, that we have no right to be either fed or
cloathed

*Roger Crab that feeds on Herbs and Rocks is here,
But I believe Diogenes had better Cheer.*

Rara avis in terris.



*Deep things more I have to tell, but I shall now forbear,
Lest some in wrath against me swell & do my body tear.*



cloathed from the spoils of other creatures, and that the very gnat we tread upon feels as strong a pang in the agonies of death as a man. As he was never married, he reserved scarce any thing to himself, retiring to Ickman, near Uxbridge ; where, with his own hands, he built himself a hut, and paid fifty shillings a year for a rood of ground. In this manner he lived with a severity of thought and frugality beyond the conception of modern luxury. Every animal he saw in distress he flew to relieve. He frequently gave a halfpenny to release a poor bird from his captivity. But what mostly deserves attention was his diet ; he refused every kind of flesh with horror. His food was gathered from the spontaneous produce of the neighbouring fields, and the first spring afforded him drink. His dress was as mortifying as the rest of his manners ; a sackloth-frock and a coarse pair of breeches open at the knees was all his covering. He carried œconomy and simplicity to a criminal excess, for he thereby shortened his life. Three farthings a week was his usual allowance, which he seldom exceeded ; and when he did, it never was more than one farthing. He lived in this opinion longer than one might expect, an example of patience, resignation, and piety. It cannot now be ascertained how long he lived in this austere manner. Seeing one day a young couple going to be married, he was much pleased. ‘ I had rather,’ cried he, ‘ give one single being existence, than be the king of England ; do you increase and multiply.’ It was towards the latter end of his days that he published the account of his life, under the title of *The Hermit*, wherein he attempts to prove, that what he practised was right. This book, though the work of an enthusiast, at least displays some shew of learning. It soon after met with an answer ; and while he meditated a reply, death took him off. Some thought he was starved, by being too weak to go in quest of his usual diet, or that a supply of bread which he received from the

town weekly had missed. One of his tracts ends in this manner :

Hence would any one know the author,
 Or ask, whose words are these ?
 I answer his, who drinks pure water,
 And studies piety, health, and ease.
 Who drinks, yet never can be drunk,
 Who is not prone to swear ;
 From lust, from pride, from lewdness sunk,
 His bones are kept so bare.

*Account of the celebrated DANIEL, OLIVER CROMWELL'S
 PORTER, who is said to have foretold several remarkable
 Events, particularly the Fire of London.*

THIS man, whose christian name was Daniel, (his surname is not recorded) was porter to Oliver Cromwell, in whose service he learned much of the cant that prevailed at that time. He was remarkably tall, and was one of that class vulgarly termed giants : the measurement of his height is preserved by a large O on the back of the terrace at Windsor castle. He was a great plodder in books of divinity, especially in those of the mystical kind, which are supposed to have turned his brain. He was many years in Bedlam, where his library was, after some time, allowed him ; as there was not the least probability of his cure. The most conspicuous of his books was a large bible, given him by Nell Gwynn (a woman who appears to have possessed almost every virtue but that of chastity). He frequently preached, and sometimes prophesied ; and was said to have foretold several remarkable events, particularly the fire of London. One would think that Butler had this frantic enthusiast in view, where he says :

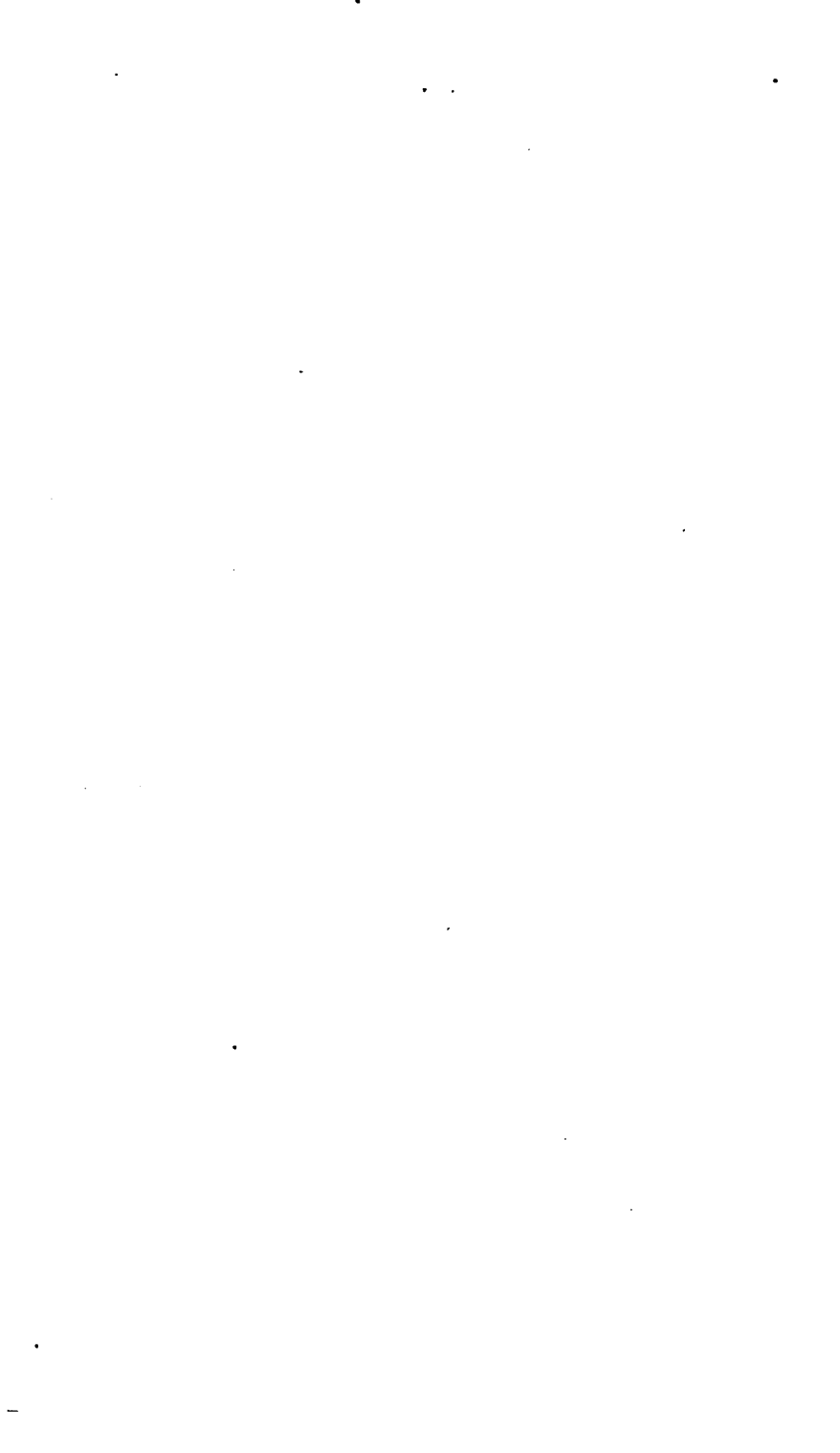
Had

WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



DANIEL,
Oliver Cromwell's Porter.
*a remarkable Man, eminent for his Sanctity; and for
prophecying many memorable events,
particularly the Fire of London.*

Pub. by Alex Henry, Supr. of the Paternoster-row.



Had lights where better eyes were blind,
 As pigs are said to see the wind ;
 Fill'd Bedlam with predestination, &c.

HUDIBRAS.

Mr. Charles Leslie, who has placed him in the same class with Fox and Muggleton, tells us, that people often went to hear him preach, and "would sit many hours under his window with great signs of devotion." That gentleman had the curiosity to ask a grave matron, who was among his auditors, "what she could profit by hearing that madman?" She, with a composed countenance, as pitying his ignorance, replied, "That Festus thought Paul was mad."

The following excellent note is from the pen of a celebrated divine, and is very appropriate to this memoir :

"The gloom which religion too often spreads over the human mind, is generally the effect of narrow conceptions of the Deity; *whose mercy is over all his works*. This has frequently filled the cells of Bedlam and St. Luke's Hospital with the most wretched of all patients. To represent the best of Beings as the worst of tyrants, which some religionists have done, drives men of melancholy tempers directly to despair, and is worse in effect than Atheism itself."



The Wonderful FOUNTAIN-TREE.

THE fountain-tree is a very extraordinary vegetable growing in one of the Canary islands, and likewise said to exist in some other places, which distils water from its leaves in such plenty as to answer all the purposes of the inhabitants who live near it. Of this tree we have the following account in Glasse's History of the Canary Islands.—"There

are only three fountains of water in the whole island of Hierro, wherein the fountain-tree grows. One of these fountains is called Acof, which, in the language of the ancient inhabitants, signifies river; a name, however, which does not seem to have been given it on account of its yielding much water, for in that respect it hardly deserves the name of a fountain. More to the northward is another called Hapio; and in the middle of the island is a spring, yielding a stream about the thickness of a man's finger. This last was discovered in the year 1565, and is called the fountain of Anton. Hernandez. On account of the scarcity of water, the sheep, goats, and swine, here, do not drink in the summer, but are taught to dig up the roots of fern, and chew them to quench their thirst. The great cattle are watered at those fountains, and at a place where water distils from the leaves of a tree. Many writers have made mention of this famous tree, some in such a manner as to make it appear miraculous: others again deny the existence of any such tree; among whom is Father Feyjoo, a modern Spanish author, in his *Theatro Critico*. But he, and those who agree with him in this matter, are as much mistaken as those who would make it appear to be miraculous.

“The author of the History of the Discovery and Conquest has given us a particular account of it, which I shall here relate at large. ‘The district in which this tree stands is called Tigulahe; near to which, and in the cliff or steep rocky ascent that surrounds the whole island, is a narrow gutter or gully, which commences at the sea, and continues to the summit of the cliff, where it joins or coincides with a valley, which is terminated by the steep front of a rock. On the top of this rock grows a tree, called in the language of the ancient inhabitants, *Garfe*, “Sacred or Holy Tree,” which for many years has been preserved sound, entire, and fresh. Its leaves constantly distil such a quantity of water

as is sufficient to furnish drink to every living creature in Heirro ; nature having provided this remedy for the drought of the island. It is situated about a league and a half from the sea. Nobody knows of what species it is, only that it is called *Til*. It is distinct from other trees, and stands by itself ; the circumference of the trunk is about twelve spans, the diameter four, and in height from the ground to the top of the highest branch, forty spans : the circumference of all the branches together is one hundred and twenty feet. The branches are thick and extended ; the lowest commence about the height of an ell from the ground. Its fruit resembles the acorn, and tastes something like the kernel of a pine-apple, but is softer and more aromatic. The leaves of this tree resemble those of the laurel, but are larger, wider and more curved ; they come forth in a perpetual succession, so that the tree always remains green. Near to it grows a thorn which fastens on many of its branches and interweaves with them ; and at a small distance from the garse are some beech-trees, bresos, and thorns. On the north side of the trunk are two large tanks or cisterns ; of rough stone, or rather one cistern divided, each half being twenty feet square, and sixteen spans in depth. One of these contains water for the drinking of the inhabitants ; and the other that which they use for their cattle, washing, and such-like purposes. Every morning, near this part of the island, a cloud or mist arises from the sea, which the south and easterly winds force against the fore-mentioned steep cliff ; so that the cloud, having no vent but by the gutter, gradually ascends it, and from thence advances slowly to the extremity of the valley ; whence it is stopped and checked by the front of the rock which terminates the valley, and then rests upon the thick leaves and wide spreading branches of the tree, from whence it distils in drops during the remainder of the day, until it is at length exhausted, in the same manner that we

see

see water drip from the leaves of trees after a heavy shower of rain. This distillation is not peculiar to the garfe or til; for the bresoes which grow near it, likewise drop water; but, their leaves being but few and narrow, the quantity is so trifling, that, though the natives save some of it, yet they make little or no account of any but what distils from the til, which, together with the water of some fountains, and what is saved in the winter season, is sufficient to serve them and their flocks. This tree yields most water in those years when the Levant or easterly winds have prevailed for a continuance; for by these winds only the clouds or mists are drawn hither from the sea. A person lives on the spot near which this tree grows, who is appointed by the council to take care of it and its water; and is allowed a house to live in, with a certain salary. He every day distributes to each family of the district seven pots or vessels full of water, besides what he gives to the principal people of the island.'

"Whether the tree which yields water at this present time be the same as that mentioned in the above description, I cannot pretend to determine: but it is probable there has been a succession of them; for Pliny, describing the Fortunate Island, says, 'In the mountains of Ombrion are trees resembling the plant *ferula*, from which water may be procured by pressure. What come from the black kind is bitter; but that which the white yields is sweet and potable.'

Trees yielding water are not peculiar to the island of Heirro; for travellers inform us of one of the same kind on the island of St. Thomas in the bight or gulph of Guiney. In Cockburn's *Voyages* we find the following account of a dropping tree, near the mountains of Fera Paz, in America:

"On the morning of the fourth day, we came out on a large plain, where were great numbers of fine deer, and in the middle stood a tree of unusual size, spreading its
branches

branches over a vast compass of ground. Curiosity led us up to it. We had perceived, at some distance off, the ground about it to be wet; at which we began to be somewhat surprised, as well knowing there had no rain fallen for near six months past, according to the certain course of the season in that latitude: that it was impossible to be occasioned by the fall of dew on the tree, we were convinced by the sun's having power to exhale away all moisture of that nature a few minutes after its rising. At last, to our great amazement as well as joy, we saw water dropping, or as it were, distilling, fast from the end of every leaf of this wonderful (nor had it been amiss if I had said miraculous) tree; at least it was so with respect to us, who had been labouring four days through extreme heat, without receiving the least moisture, and were now almost expiring for the want of it.

“ We could not help looking on this as liquor sent from heaven to comfort us under great extremity. We caught what we could of it in our hands, and drank very plentifully of it; and liked it so well, that we could hardly prevail with ourselves to give over. A matter of this nature could not but incite us to make the strictest observations concerning it; and accordingly we staid under the tree near three hours, and found we could not fathom its body in five times. We observed the soil where it grew to be very strong; and upon the nicest inquiry we could afterwards make, both of the natives of the country and the Spanish inhabitants, we could not learn that there was any such tree known throughout New Spain, nor perhaps all America over: but I do not relate this as a prodigy in nature, because I am not philosopher enough to ascribe any natural cause for it; the learned may perhaps give substantial reasons in nature for what appeared to us a great and marvellous secret.”

A Curious

A Curious ANECDOTE.

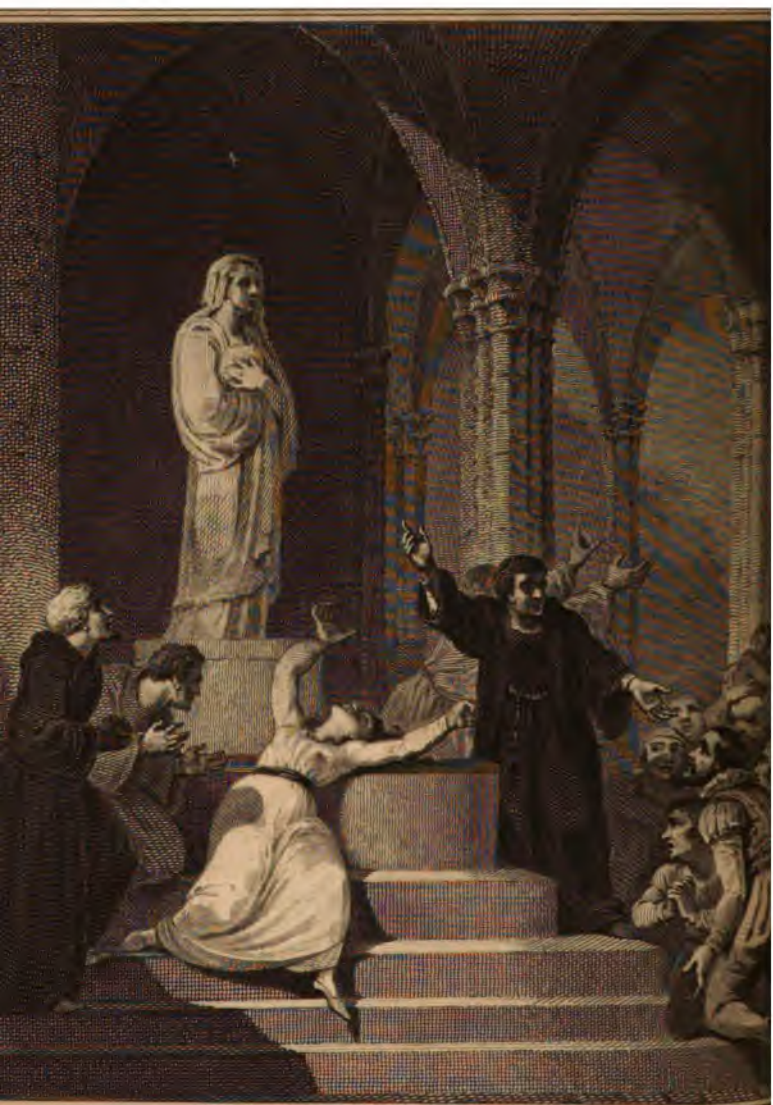
THE Mayor of a certain ancient and respectable Burgh (not 100 miles from Norwich) not half a century ago, called an Assembly of the Corporation; and on its being met, he arose, and said, "It had been long a matter of surprise to him, considering the length of time since the decease of Queen Anne, that the compliment should still be paid her memory of mentioning her name in all public deeds, &c. and he wondered at it the more, as every gentleman must agree with him, that we never had a more gracious monarch than his present Majesty King George the third: He had therefore called the Assembly to make a proposition, which, from the known loyalty of his worthy brethren, he doubted not, would be unanimously approved of, namely, that in all deeds, charters, and public papers, belonging to, and issued from, the Burgh of—, instead of the usual words *Anno Domine*, for the future should be substituted the words *Georgo Domine*."

SAM.

Remarkable Dying Speech of MR. CUFFEE, Secretary to the Earl of Essex, who was executed in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth, for the same Offence which brought the Earl, his Master, to the Block.

I AM here adjudged to die for acting an act never plotted, for plotting an act never acted. Justice will have her course—accusers must be heard—greatness will have the victory—scholars and martialists (though learning and valour should have the pre-eminence) in England, must die like dogs and be hanged.—To mislike this were but folly—to dispute it, but time lost—to alter it impossible—but to endure it, is manly—and to scorn it, magnanimity.—

The



Elizabeth Barton, commonly called
THE HOLY MAID OF KENT,
Practicing her Impositions.

The queen is displeased, the lawyers injurious, and death terrible: but I crave pardon of the queen, forgive the lawyers, and the world; desire to be forgiven, and welcome death.

W. C.

Singular Account of the HOLY MAID of KENT.

ELIZABETH BARTON, commonly called the Holy Maid of Kent, was born at Aldington in this county in 1505. She was some time a menial servant to a farmer, and being troubled with hystERIC fits, she used to give strange accounts of revelations that were made to her during the paroxysm of the fit. This happening about the time that Henry VIII. shook off the pope's supremacy, the priests were determined, if possible, to turn the natural disorder of this girl to their own advantage, by setting her up as a person inspired by the Holy Ghost.

One Masters, a knavish priest, was the first who began his pranks with this silly girl, by advising her to tell the people, that Christ and the Virgin appeared to her, and gave her directions to foretel future events, which was greedily swallowed by the ignorant multitude. The artful management of this impostor, together with her pretended piety, brought great crowds of people to visit her, among whom were Wareham, archbishop of Canterbury, Fisher, bishop of Rochester, with many other persons, friends to Popery, and who thought this an happy occurrence to support their sinking religion.

Wareham, the archbishop, was a most persecuting Papist, and he secretly instructed her to tell the people, that the blessed Virgin had appeared to her, and told her, that she would not recover unless she visited an image, in a chapel at a small village near where she lived. A day being appointed for that purpose, this young impostor went to

the place attended by upwards of three thousand people, amongst whom were several persons of quality.

At her entrance into the chapel, she was saluted with a hymn, and as soon as she approached the image of the Virgin, she fell into a trance, and repeated such rhymes and speeches as the knavish priests had instructed her, all tending to support Popery. When recovered from this fit, she told the people that the Virgin had ordered her to choose Dr. Bocking, one of the canons of Christ's-Church in Canterbury to be her confessor. This Bocking accepted of the office, and Wareham, the archbishop, placed the girl in a nunnery, where she carried on the imposture for some years.

During the time that the divorce was depending between Henry VIII. and Catharine of Arragon, the clergy were under great apprehensions, that if the king married Ann Boleyn, it would be fatal to their religion, as that lady was supposed to favour the Reformation. This induced them to set all their engines to work, in order to prevent the divorce, and amongst others Dr. Bocking was not idle. He told his pupil that she was under an absolute obligation, for the good of the holy mother church, to pretend that the Virgin Mary had appeared to her, and commanded her to go and threaten the king to desist from his intention of parting with his queen. The girl puffed up with her former success, and the character she bore for sanctity, was foolish enough to obey the priest. She told the people, that the mother of our Saviour had ordered her to declare, that if the king parted with Catharine, he should not sit on the throne a year longer, but should die a villain's death. Henry, although a slave to his passions, yet had an excellent understanding, and took no notice of this impostor, but rather treated her as an object of contempt; but Fisher, bishop of Rochester, and Sir Thomas More, having blazed all over the nation, that she was divinely inspired, it became

came a very serious matter with Henry, who was no stranger to the tricks of the priests. He issued his warrant to bring the holy maid and her accomplices into the court of star-chamber, where there was a numerous appearance of the nobility. When under examination, they were threatened with the torture, unless they made a full discovery of the fraud, upon which they confessed the whole trick.

In an age of Popish bigotry it was necessary, for the security of government to make as public an example of the offenders as possible. Accordingly the court ordered them to be taken to St. Paul's cross, at the upper end of Cheap-side, and being placed on a scaffold, the bishop of Bangor preached a sermon to the people, setting forth the nature of their dangerous practices ; after which each of them were obliged to read their confession aloud.

From thence they were carried to the tower, where they remained confined in separate apartments till the meeting of parliament. It was considered as a dangerous affair, to trust the matter with a grand jury, and therefore an act passed both houses, by which they were attainted of high treason, and a warrant made out, that Dr. Bocking the confessor, Masters, Deering, Bisby, and Gold, four monks who had been active in the affair, together with Elizabeth Barton, should suffer death at Tyburn. They were all drawn to the place of execution on sledges, and the holy maid was burnt ; but the priests were hanged and quartered, their heads being afterwards placed on the most conspicuous parts near town.

There are certainly not in the universe, a more formidable set of enemies than Popish priests, where their own interest is concerned. Their education gives them an opportunity of studying a proper knowledge of mankind, so that it is no difficult matter with them to make a silly girl instrumental in disturbing the peace of a whole kingdom. Happy Britain, who is now delivered from papal tyranny.

An Account of a PERIODICAL DUMBNESS.

THE son of an inn-keeper at Jelsing, in the duchy of Wirtemberg, of a choleric constitution, and about twenty-five years of age, was taken so ill after supper on St. Stephen's day, that he could neither stand nor sit. He was also so sick at heart, that had he not been relieved by copious vomiting, he was often apprehensive of being suffocated. About an hour after, he was better; but during three whole months he became much dejected and melancholy, and sometimes as if seized with fear. After the expiration of this term, he was suddenly struck dumb, without being able to pronounce the least word, or form the least sound, though he could speak very articulately before. At first, the loss of his speech and voice was instantaneous, but began to continue longer every day; so that, from the duration of some minutes, it amounted to half an hour, two hours, three hours, and lastly to twenty-three hours, yet without order. Such was his condition upwards of half a year. At last the return of his speech kept so constant and regular an order, that for fourteen years together, he could speak but from noon, during the space of an entire hour, to the precise moment of one o'clock. Every time he lost his speech, he felt something rise from his stomach to his throat. He could not be deceived by the transposition of hours, because he observed always and very exactly the term, from twelve to one, though no bell rings nor clock strikes. Excepting this loss of speech, he made no complaint of the disorder of any animal function. Both his internal and external senses continued sound: he heard always very exactly, and answered by gestures or writing to the questions proposed to him. He eat and drank heartily, and was very handy and active in doing the business of the family. At his time of speaking his discourse was discreet and sensible, for a person of his education;

education ; and, if desired to read, which he sometimes did of himself, he was sure to stop short always in silence the moment that one o'clock in the afternoon locked up the powers of his tongue.

There could not be a more extraordinary case than this, nor one so much deserving of the attention of the curious. How to account for it, must be extremely difficult. Perhaps something he eat at supper, when first taken ill, ever after remained undigested in his stomach or intestines ; and, as he used to feel something rising from thence towards his throat, it probably caused the extinction of his voice, which he did not recover till it again subsided.



An Account of a FRENCH LADY Blind from her INFANCY.

A YOUNG gentlewoman of a good family in France, lost her sight when only two years old, her mother having been advised to lay some pigeon's blood on her eyes, to preserve them in the small pox ; whereas, so far from answering the end, it eat into them : nature, however, may be said to have compensated for the unhappy mistake, by beauty of person, sweetness of temper, vivacity of genius, quickness of conception, and many talents which certainly much alleviate her misfortune.

She plays at cards with the same readiness as others of the party ; she first prepares the packs allotted to her, by pricking them in several parts, yet so imperceptibly that the closest inspection can scarce discern her indexes. She sorts the suits, and arranges the cards in their proper sequence, with the same precision, and nearly the same facility, as they who have their sight. All she requires of those who play with her, is to name every card as it is played ; and these she retains so exactly, that she frequently performs some notable stroke, such as shew a great combination and strong memory.

The

The most wonderful circumstance is that she should have learnt to read and write ; but even this is readily believed on knowing her method. In writing to her, no ink is used, but the letters are pricked down on the paper ; and by the delicacy of her touch, feeling each letter, she follows them successively, and reads every word with her fingers ends. She herself in writing makes use of a pencil, as she could not know when her pen was dry ; her guide on the paper is a small thin ruler, and of the breadth of her writing. On finishing a letter, she wets it, so as to fix the traces of her pencil, that they are not obscured or effaced ; then proceeds to fold and seal it, and write the direction ; all by her own address, and without the assistance of any other person. Her writing is very strait, well cut, and the spelling no less correct. To reach this singular mechanism, the indefatigable cares of her affectionate mother were long employed, who accustoming her daughter to feel letters cut in cards or pasteboard, brought her to distinguish an A from a B, and thus the whole alphabet, and afterwards to spell words ; then by the remembrance of the shape of the letters to delineate them on paper, and lastly, to arrange them so as to form words and sentences.

She has learnt to play on the guittar, and has even contrived a way of pricking down the tunes as an assistance to her memory. So delicate are her organs, that in singing a tune, though new to her, she is able to name the notes.

In figured dances she acquires herself extremely well, and in a minuet, with inimitable ease and gracefulness. As for the works of her sex, she has a masterly hand, she sews and hems perfectly well : and in all her works she threads the needles for herself, however small.

By the watch, her touch never fails telling her exactly the hour and minute.

As a supplement to this letter, we shall give a postscript of
of

of the late Bishop (then Dr.) Burnet to the second letter of his travels.

“ In the account that I gave you of Geneva, I forgot to mention a very extraordinary person that is there, Mrs. Walker; her father is of Staff-house, she lost her sight when she was but a year old, by being too near a stove that was very hot: there rests in the upper part of her eye so much sight, that she distinguishes day from night: and when any person stands between her and the light, she will distinguish by the head and its dress a man from a woman, but when she turns down her eyes she sees nothing: she hath a vast memory: besides the French, that is her natural language, she speaks both High-Dutch, Italian, and Latin, she hath also the psalms by heart in French, and many of them in Dutch and Italian: she understands the old philosophy well, and is now studying the new: she hath studied the body of divinity well, and hath the text of the scriptures very ready: on all which matters I had long conversations with her. She not only sings well, but she plays rarely on the organ; and I was told she played on the violin, but her violin was out of order. But that which is most of all, is, she writes legibly; in order to her learning to write, her father is a worthy man, and hath such tenderness for her, that he furnishes her with masters of all sorts, ordered letters to be carved in wood, and she by feeling the characters formed such an idea of them, that she writes with a crayon so distinctly, that her writings can be well read, of which I have several essays. I saw her write, she doth it more nimbly than can be imagined; she hath a machine that holds the paper, and keeps her always in line. But that which is above all the rest, she is a person of extraordinary devotion, great resignation to the will of God, and a profound humility. The preceptor that the father kept in the house with her, hath a wonderful faculty of acquiring tongues. When he came first to Geneva (for he is of Zurich) he spoke not a word of French,

French, and within thirteen months he preached in French correctly, and with a good accent; he also began to study Italian in the month of November, and before the end of February following he preached in Italian; his accent was good, and his style florid, which was very extraordinary, for the Italian language is not spoken in Geneva, though the race of the Italians do keep up still an Italian church there."

Authentic Particulars of the famous MARTIN VAN BUTCHELL, Surgeon, Dentist, and celebrated Curer of Fistulas, Piles, Wens, &c.

THE following particulars of this extraordinary character have been written *purposely for this Museum*, by Mr. M. Van Butchell himself, and which we give in his own words, an erroneous account of him (with respect to birth, &c. &c.) having lately appeared in another work, as devoid of truth as it is of novelty; but VERACITY being the basis of our undertaking, we are determined rather to *delay* the biography of singular and wonderful characters, for the purpose of obtaining their *permission* (and consequently their revival of our accounts) than to insert *hasty* and *fabricated* memoirs, with the view of anticipating other publications.

For GRANGER'S WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

"Martin Van Butchell, (the eldest son of John Van Butchell), born in Eagle-street, near Red-lion Square, 5th Feb. 1735.

"In his youth began, to practice healing. Better save 10 men, than kill an 100.

"Was many years, a diligent pupil, to the late Doctor William Hunter, F. R. S. Physician-extraordinary to the Queen, and Anatomical Lecturer; to the Royal Academy: Also, to his brother, the late John Hunter, Esq. F. R. S. Surgeon



The Famous M^r MARTIN VAN BUTCHELL
Pupil to the Late D^r Hunter.



Surgeon-extraordinary to the King; and Surgeon-general, to his Majesty's Forces.

" Has been very long, in the habit of, curing Fistulas; Piles, Wens, Carbuncles; Mattery Pimples; Inflammations, Boils; Ulcers, Aching Legs; Tumors, Abscesses; Strictures, and Ruptures, without Confinement; Burning, or Cutting.

" Pains, he lessens much; often speedily. Now gives worthy friends, fragrant, wholesome tea: himself prepares it, very carefully; and uses daily, with his family; wife, and eight children. One small Tea-spoon full, makes enough for two. Ounce, serves fifteen times: taken for breakfast; instead of such things, as have done much harm. Used to shave his Beard, 'till twelve years ago, then he thought it wrong.

" He does not take wine; nor, any strong drink. Eats, but little flesh.

" Frequently rides out, on his grey-poney. Goes to bed early: and rises betimes.

" Was the Inventor, of Elastic-bands; (Gentlemen wear them, to keep up small-cloathes.) Also, Cork-bottoms, to Iron-stirrups; Spring-girths for Saddles; and, many like things.

" Is of opinion, that horses should not, be dock'd, nick'd, nor trimm'd.

" More than thirty years, he has resided in his present house; Mount-street, in London; Number 56; very near Hyde-park.
M. V. B."

To the above account, we beg leave to add, that Mr. Van Butchell has not been only an assistant to gentlemen with respect to *trusses*, but also to ladies as a dentist and surgeon, in removing tumors, wens, and other enemies to beauty; as will appear by the following curious advertisements,

ments, copies of which we here subjoin, as the best proofs of his extraordinary abilities.

“ MORTIFICATIONS.

“ He that doeth well, cometh to the light.”

“ Old People, (especially Professors of the healing art ; and such of their friends, as are not fond of intestine medicines) are respectfully informed, that MARTIN VAN BUTCHELL, (of Mount-street, Grosvenor-square), Surgeon-Dentist, and Patentee for Spring-Bands, has invented, and (himself) prepared, a neat, clean, pleasant-smelling, outward SPECIFIC, for BLEEDING FUNGUS', INFLAMMATIONS, SUPPURATIONS, CARBUNCLES, ULCERATIONS, and MORTIFICATIONS !

“ Spare not !—Waste not !”—Is the Author's motto !
 And he means to give—each Patient plenty
 Of his specific,—in hopes none will dare
 To be profuse,—or at all purloining !

“ JOHN HUNTER, Esq. F. R. S. (of Leicester-square), Surgeon-Extraordinary to the King, and Surgeon-General to his Majesty's Forces, had a small bottle of it presented to him very lately:—when he saw two Patients, and the said SPECIFIC, most readily applied (to their bad parts) with much success !

This—is not like any extract of Lead ;—
 (That palsy-producing,—noxious Metal :—)
 Nor,—the King's-Evil Rouser—Mercury :—
 (Dire,—predisposing Cause—of many Woes.—)
 Nor,—Antimony ;—often dangerous :—
 (Nor,—the Caustick,—Lapis Infernalis :—)

Nor,

Nor,—that injurious poison,—Arfenick :—
(Nor,—Hemlock ; which, too long amus'd weak minds)

But,—ESSENCE from fine GOLD ;—

Sweet BALM of LIFE !

Those known (at the WORLD OFFICE) some may smell—

And not smell only—but see—feel—and taste

One drop—on Sugar.

“ The ROYAL COLLEGE of PHYSICIANS,

And the

Corporation of SURGEONS of London,

(Those proper GUARDIANS of infirm bodies,)

May see—if they please—such as Mr. JOHN HUNTER has
with pleasure seen : on giving notice to

MARTIN VAN BUTCHELL,

“ Who sends forth words of truth—and soberness.”

✂ So many die—wanting the BALM of LIFE ;

Aged Folk—should ever have it by them !—

And so ought the young :—as a PREVENTIVE,

Of what might end in—

Sad PUTRIDITY.——

Observe,—

Strong Drinks—make Weakness,—and are bad

For them that use

VAN BUTCHELL's Balm of Life !

“ LOOK—at a CASE—and

Say—“ FACTS—are STUBBORN !”

“ Sir I Return my humble thanks for the Benefits I
Rec'd by Youre drops my Finger was in a Mortify'd State
my nail roted of and my finger Stunk that I Could hardly
Indure the Smell of It & in the Course of Nine Days Mak-
ing Use of Youre Drops by the Blessing of God I was In-
abled to Work from Your Humble Servant

SAMUELL JENKINS Shoe maker Living

April 18th

at No 2 New Exchange

Court Strand London

1791.

4 K 2

*** The

they may be Cured, and shall at all Times feel the gratest
Plesure in Communicating.

I AM, SIR,

With the most heart-felt Gratitude,

Your Obliged well Wisher,

And Humble Servant,

STEPHEN SMITH,

Master House Carpenter, of his MAJESTY's Yard,

WOOLWICH. 16 October, 1796.

EMPERORS,—Princes,—DUKES, and—MARQUISES.

Many want our Aid. We are paid, as others are not :

We have said, what others dare not.

THE Great JOHN HUNTER * Taught ME to GET first :

Excentrically :—IN Neat-HEALING-ART !

TO SAVE FEELING BLOOD—Is the GIFT of GOD :

And the WILL of MAN :—Concerning HIMSELF :

So we do much good :—Curing FISTULÆ.

Without Confinement, Fomentation, Risk :

Injection, Poltice, Caustic, or Cutting.

FEE, is Two per CENT.—On FIVE Years PROFIT :

~~OF~~ All the Money down :—Before I begin.

ANANIAS, FELL !—DEAD : FOR KEEPING BACK !

MARTIN VAN-BUTCHELL.

* SURGEON EXTRAORDINARY TO THE KING :

And Surgeon General to His Forces.

THE—first—MAGISTRATE

And other SINCERE—Lovers of this STATE

Are now informed—most respectfully

That some years ago, MARTIN VAN BUTCHELL, had an
Appointment to meet

(—At Lady HUNLOCH's House, in Stratford-Place,—)

his able teacher, JOHN HUNTER, Esq.

Who overtook him in Grosvenor-square, and bade him get
into his Chariot :—soon as he was seated,

John,

John, said, "What Mischief are you about now?"

Martin. 'Curing the King's-Evil.'

John. "I can't Cure the King's-Evil."

Martin. 'I know you can't Cure the King's Evil:—If
' you could Cure the King's-Evil, I should not trouble
' myself about the King's-Evil: but I want to do,

' What you cannot do!'

John. "That is right.—Do you try to get first. (*—We
' know nothing, compared to what we are ignorant of—*) Make
' yourseif of consequence, and then every body will make
' you of consequence; but if you don't make yourself of
' consequence, nobody else will.—I do assure you,—many
' are in very high esteem, and very full practice, that
' (*—comparatively—*) know no more about HEALING, than
' *Dray-Horses*:—they have not POWERS.

"YOU—TRY—TO—BE—FIRST!"

HINTS—To—THE—Cap—CLUB.

(—"Behold!—now is the day of Salvation."

"Get Understanding:"—As the highest Gain.)

Cease acting boyish:—Become quite manly!

Girls are fond of *Hair*: (*—And love Comforters:—*)

See their *Bosom-Friends*:—Large Waists—*Muffs*—*Tippets*.

Let your BEARDS grow long:—*Shun-Bad-Company*:

That ye may be strong—In Mind—and—Body:

As were Great-grand-Dads:—Centuries ago:

When JOHN did not owe—a single Penny:

MORE—THAN—HE—COULD—PAY.

LIVES—AND—FORTUNES—MEN.

Mind not your own *Fears*:—Nor what others say:

If ye want *Curing*:—In *Bad-RUPTURE* way:

Hasten to my House:—Soon be made quite Stout:

Fit to mount Gay-Nags:—And Gallop about:

Bring

Bring *Cash* in Pockets :—That ye need not write :

I don't like *PROMISE* :—Even *Black* and *White* :

FROM—BANKS—IN—ENGLAND.

Telegraph, Saturday, March 11, 1797.

To these we could add several others, but being partly repetitions, the above, we presume, will be sufficient to illustrate our hero's character, not only as an ingenious inventor, but as an eccentric writer. Mr. Van Butchell, regardless of the *pomp of fashion*, frequently rides about on his poney, the accoutrements of which have excited even royal attention. He is a very cheerful companion, and remarkable for affability. He has been twice married, and his *bay-*ing kept the body of his first wife for some time in his house, in a preserved state, occasioned much public curiosity.

This uxorious humour gave rise to a report that he was entitled to a property as long as she remained *above ground*.

We must, however, drop a subject which has been too painful to Mr. Van Butchell to mention, and of which we have no authentic information : we shall therefore conclude with a quotation used by our author, in another of his advertisements, which may account for his not having shaved himself these twelve years.

* * * BEARDS—

' THE DELIGHT OF ANCIENT BEAUTIES.

' When the Fair were accustomed to behold their lovers
' with beards, the sight of a shaved chin excited sentiments
' of horror and aversion.

' To obey the injunctions of his Bishops, Louis the
' Seventh of France cropped his hair, and shaved his
' beard. Eleanor of Aquitaine, his consort, found him,
' with this uncommon appearance, very ridiculous, and
' very contemptible. She revenged herself, by becoming
' something more than a coquette. The King obtained a
divorce.

‘ divorce. She then married the Count of Anjou, who
 ‘ shortly after ascended the English throne. She gave him
 ‘ for her marriage-dower the rich provinces of Poitou and
 ‘ Guienne; and this was the origin of those wars which for
 ‘ three hundred years ravaged France, and which cost the
 ‘ French nation three millions of men. All which, pro-
 ‘ bably, had never taken place, if Louis the Seventh had
 ‘ not been so rash as to crop his hair and shave his beard,
 ‘ by which he became so disgustful in the eyes of the fair
 ‘ Eleanor.’

From Curiosities of Literature, 1793. P. 487.

*Designs of BONAPARTE and the FRENCH! formed against
 ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND, in July 1803.*

AMONG the preparations for the invasion of England, as carried on in France, one of the main operations is a prepared system of confiscation of the real property of this country; and as the assignats were found, during the first years of the Revolution in that country, to be the most effectual means of alienating property, assignats are now preparing, the hypotheque of which is, the lands in England.

As soon as a footing is obtained in this country, a paper-money is to be issued by the commissaries of the invading army, which is to have a forced currency, and is nearly in the following terms:—

Good for twenty-four Livres, or One Pound Sterling.

“ The Bearer of this will be entitled to bid for confiscated
 “ property in land or houses, and may present these pre-
 “ sents, in part payment, at its full value. All persons in
 “ Trade are ordered, on pain of death, to receive the same
 “ as money in exchange, for all such articles of provisions or
 “ necessaries of life as may be required by order of the com-
 “ mander in chief. “ Signed, &c. &c.

“ *Death to counterfeit or refuse to accept, or to give the balance in money* for all sums under twelve livres or ten shillings.”

The prices of all articles of necessity are to be regulated by a printed list or tariff, which is to be distributed gratis, and which every individual is to be *compelled* to know, or a declaration of ignorance to be counted no excuse.

All those who do not voluntarily submit to the French army as soon as it arrives within *twenty miles* of the place where the property is situated, are to be put on the footing of emigrants and rebels, their property confiscated, and their persons seized wherever found. By submission is understood laying down arms—appearing in person, to a person authorized to sign a total acquiescence in all orders and decrees issued by the commander in chief of the forces of the first Consul—those who submit to have protections for their persons, and *one half of their property*.

All the children under the age of twelve and above that of four years, are to be sent into France to *learn the language*; their parents either to pay an annual sum for their maintenance and education, or, when they cannot do that, to maintain a French soldier or gend’arme in England.

Those who are above the age of twelve, and under sixteen, to be compelled to learn French; and as soon as they can speak that language, either to be fined or flogged as often as they are found speaking English.

All the persons of a riper age to learn French as fast as they can, and to be subject to a requisition, and to be incorporated in the French armies, but not in greater numbers than one English for five French, and to serve on the Continent, in France, or some of the nations under the dominion of the republic.

One half of the produce of all mines of copper, tin, bismuth, or zinc, to belong to the French. One half of the

the collieries to be let overflow with water, and all cotton mills, spinning machines, fire engines, looms for weaving, iron furnaces, slitting and rolling mills, or such other machines as the commissioners and commander in chief shall order, to be broken.

The shipping and naval stores to be sent to France; and all the royal ports, such as Portsmouth, Plymouth, &c. that can receive a frigate of 44 guns, to be destroyed or filled up.

That the decrees may be the better understood, the intention is declared to be, that England, which is the rival of France, and the enemy of all nations, shall become a province of the republic, in which the French language alone shall be spoken, and French laws obeyed. Liberty of religious opinions shall be allowed; but as there are too many churches and places of public worship in that fanatical country, one half shall be converted into barracks for soldiers, or otherwise converted to the use of the French government.

The only teachers in public schools, universities, or academies, shall be natives of France; and the English language prohibited to be taught, under the heaviest penalties.

Death to print or publish any thing in English, except by order of the commander in chief.

All English books to be seized and sent to France, and books printed in French to be the only ones permitted to be sold or distributed in England.

All laws and regulations made for England to extend to Ireland also.

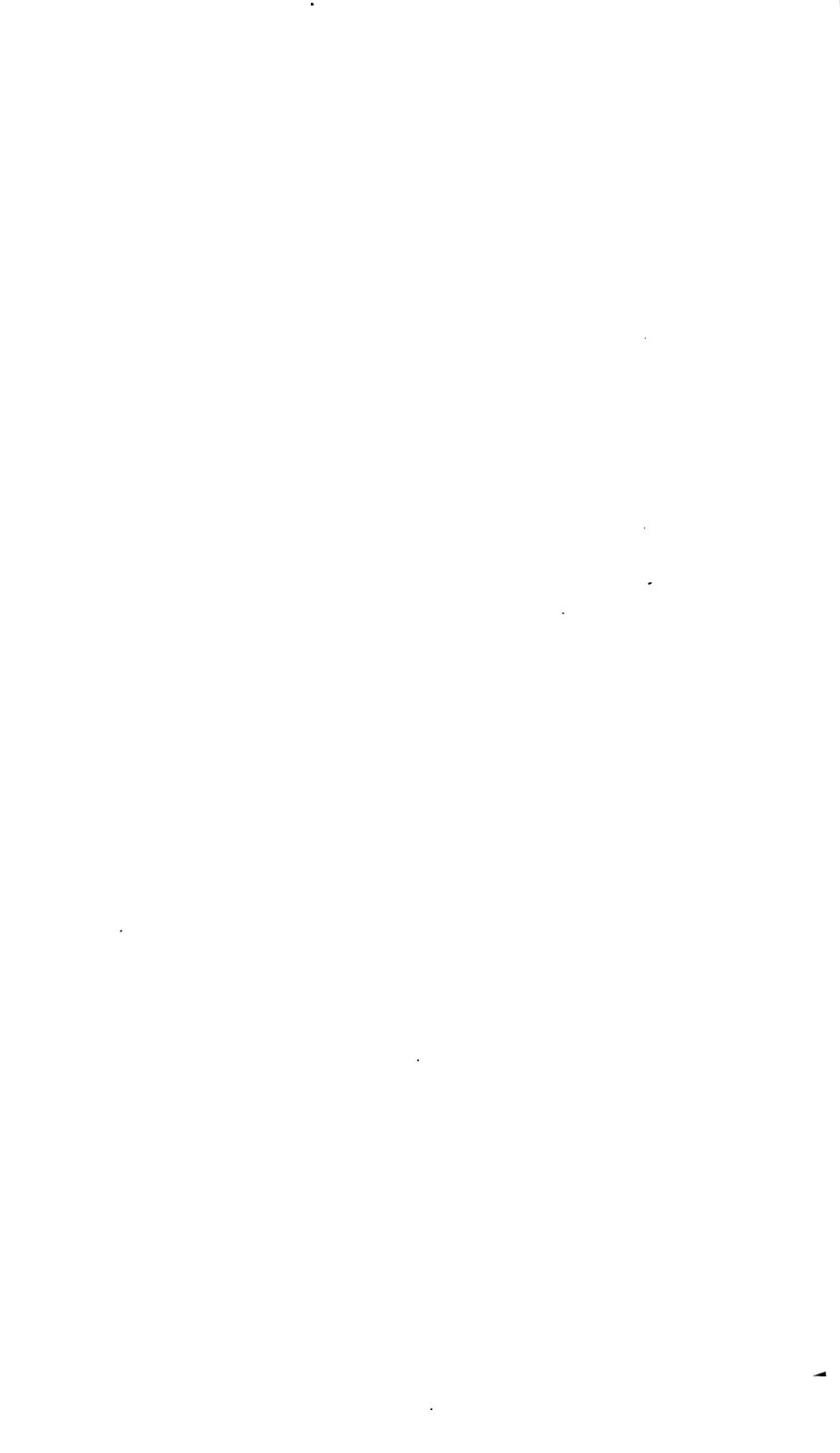
Such are the *severe, unjust*, and, we trust, *chimerical projects* of the French.—If these cannot awaken this country, we do not know what can; and we leave the commentary to the good sense, courage, and patriotism of *Britons, who, when true to themselves, never did, nor, we trust, never shall, lay at the proud foot of a conqueror.*

An Account of a BODY, which had been found entirely converted into HAIR, a considerable Time after it was buried.

[From the *Acts of Leipsic.*]

ABOUT forty-three years ago, a woman was interred at Nuremberg in a wooden coffin painted black, according to the custom of the country. The earth, wherein her body was deposited, was dry and yellow, as it is for the most part in the environs of that city. Of three bodies buried in the same grave, this woman's was laid the deepest in the ground; and there being an occasion to make room for a fourth body, the grave was dug up anew; but, to the great surprise of the digger, when he had removed the two uppermost coffins, he perceived a considerable quantity of hair that had made its way through the slits and crevices of the coffin. The lid being taken off, there appeared a perfect resemblance of a man figure, the eyes, nose, mouth, ears, and all other parts, being very distinct; but from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet, it was covered with very long, thick, and frizzled hair. The grave-digger, after examining it for some time, happened to touch the upper part of the head; but was more surprised than before, on seeing the entire body shrink, and nothing at last remain in his hand, but a bundle of rough hair, which insensibly assumed a brownish-red colour.

The learned Honoratus Fabri, Lib. 3. de Plantis, and several other authors, are of opinion, that hair, wool, feathers, nails, horns, teeth, &c. are nothing but vegetables. If it be so, we need not be surprised to see them grow on the bodies of animals, even after their death, as has been frequently observed. Petrus Borellus, Hist. & Obs. Med. Cent. I. Obs. 10, pretends, that these productions may be transplanted as vegetables, and may grow in a different place from that where they first germinated. He also relates in





Sir Walter Raleigh

Engraved by J. Freeman from the original painting

in some of his observations on this subject, among others, that of a tooth drawn out and transplanted, which may appear pretty singular.

Though the external surface of bodies is the usual place for the growth of hair, it has, notwithstanding, been sometimes found on the tongue, in the interior of the heart, and on its surface, in the breast and kidneys; and in other glandular and muscular parts; but there is no internal part where it is oftener found than in the ovarium of females. This has been observed in three different subjects by Dr. Tyson, as we find it related in the philosophical collections of Mr. Hooke, who also tells us, on the testimony of Mr. Arnold, that a man, hanged at Tyburn for theft, was found, in a very short time after he was taken away from the gallows, covered over in a very extraordinary manner with hair.

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*An Account, and the Remarkable TRIAL, of SIR WALTER RALEIGH.*

SIR Walter Raleigh was born in the year 1552. He was one of the most skilful navigators and best sea officers in England, during his time; in proof of which, we shall merely state that he held the high trust of general and admiral, and had the power invested in him of life and death, even after the shameful trial and sentence which we are about to relate. Brilliant talents always excite enemies in courts; and, in times when refinement had not advanced very far, as was the case at the court of King James, such enemies used to take violent measures to get rid of those they wished to sacrifice.

If there is any trial upon record that ought to make Englishmen revere the present Constitution of the country, and the judges who are entrusted with the administration of justice, it is the trial of Sir Walter Raleigh: in which they will see that every species of injustice prevailed, for the very  
simple

simple reason that the judges who tried, and the jury who condemned him, were mere tools of a faction at Court, and maintained and avowed principles very much similar to those professed and acted upon at Paris, in the year 1794, under the reign of Robespierre.

Sir Walter Raleigh, the prisoner, by the indictment is charged with high treason, in compassing and imagining to destroy the king; for which end and purpose he had met and consulted with Lord Cobham, to devise and execute measures for placing Lady Arabella Stuart on the throne.

That it had been determined, that his lordship should take a tour to the continent, in order to carry letters from Lady Arabella Stuart to the King of Spain, the Archduke and Duke of Savoy, and bring them into the plan to lend assistance: with a promise, that if she should prove successful, peace should be granted to Spain, and Popery be tolerated in England; besides which, Lady Arabella promised to be guided by their advice, in giving away her hand in marriage. The indictment farther stated, that Lord Cobham did, at the instigation and with the advice of Sir Walter Raleigh, write to Monf. D'Aremberg, the ambassador of the Archduke, requesting pecuniary aid, to the amount of 600,000 (about 70,000*l.*) to enable him and his associates to put the plan into execution. That the ambassador promised to grant the sum, out of which Sir Walter was to receive 8000 crowns (about 1000*l.*) by stipulation. It was farther stated, that Sir Walter had published a book, to prove that the King had not a right title to the throne.

Lord Cobham was brought forward on the trial, on whose evidence alone the indictment was drawn up; but a statement by this extraordinary accuser was read, in which he confesses he had been over in Flanders, to the Archduke, and obtained a passport to go to Spain, to solicit the king for 600,000 crowns, with an intention to return by way of Jersey, and consult with Sir Walter on the execution of the business,

business, and particularly relative to the distribution of the money amongst the disaffected in England; declaring, that he had been instigated and set on by Sir Walter alone, to act in this traitorous and abominable business.

Incredible as it may appear, on opening this absurd and spurious indictment, Sir Edward Coke even outdid Cobham in the abuse with which he loaded Sir Walter, calling him a vile abominable villain, and execrable traitor, deserving every punishment that could be inflicted on a man.

To the evidence of Lord Cobham the examination of another witness was produced, one who deposed that Sir Walter and Lord Cobham had supped together on the same day; that his Lordship went to Monsieur D'Aremberg, the Ambassador of the Archduke.

There being no farther evidence against Sir Walter for this, one Dyer appeared and actually gave *viva voce* evidence, who reported (on hearsay) that he had heard a gentleman say, at Lisbon, that the King never would be crowned, for that Don Raleigh and Don Cobham would cut his throat and so prevent that.

It was stated in the indictment that Sir Walter had published a book against the King's right to sit on the throne; to support which serious charge, for such it certainly was, a letter from Lord Cobham, that he had a book from Raleigh against the King's title, which Raleigh said was foolishly written, was produced!!

There was also another letter of Lord Cobham produced, in which he says, that Sir Walter Raleigh sent to him when in the Tower, in order to retract his evidence; adding, that Raleigh was to have had 1500*l.* per ann. of the Spanish government, on condition of becoming a spy and giving information whenever England meditated any attack on Spain.

The examination of Sir Walter Raleigh was then first read,

read, in which he declares, that Cobham did once him 8000 crowns if he would promote a peace with Spain then at war with England; but that, supposing such a proposal made by Cobham to him could only be in jest, one of his idle conceits, he replied, that when he saw money down on the table, he would say more, by which means giving an answer that had no specific meaning or signification.

Sir Walter in his defence, and in answer to the above vague, and unsubstantiated charges brought against him, began by disclaiming all knowledge of any underhand, or secret connection, between Lord Cobham, and the Archduke Ambassador; and protested that he never so much as mentioned the name of Lady Arabella Stuart, much less, had any plan, and become the chief conductor of it, for placing her upon the throne. That there was very little probability in the fabricated accusation, of his having sent Lord Cobham into Spain, and still less, that the Spaniards, so weakened as they were, would venture to make an invasion on England in so absurd a cause; particularly, as their kingdom was nearly destroyed. That he had the difficult task of proving negatives, and therefore, must ask the Court, whether it was in any way likely, that Spain, so reduced and debilitated in her finances, could be brought to advance 6000 crowns, out of which, he, the chief, was to be paid to his Ambassador the immense sum of 8000 crowns?

Was it more probable that he who had written a treaty expressly against a peace with Spain, should have been sicked to procure one? Besides, he insisted boldly, that it was unfair and illegal to accuse a person in a general manner; that particular facts should be brought forward, when reality established; and that Lord Cobham ought to give some account of the motives and reasons for his undertaking such a scheme; that he ought at least to establish

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having had some sort of intercourse, either directly or indirectly, with Lady Arabella Stuart, for whom he was ready to betray his king, and risque his life.

That the deposition of a man, who acknowledged his own guilt, could not be considered as sufficient proof of that of another person; that there ought to be two credible witnesses brought to be confronted with each other in court, and heard on *viva voce* evidence, whereas there had not one appeared against him. With regard to the accusation of the book published against the king's right to reign, it was an absolute absurdity; that the act of publishing a book, as contained in the indictment, must have been known, had it been true, to other persons besides Lord Cobham; and that, what really took place was no more than his having found a book on that subject in the late Lord Treasurer's study, on which was written in his Lordship's hand-writing—"This is the book of Robert Savaggs, which book he had never read, commended, or communicated, to any person whatever."—Besides which, the book had been burned long ago; whereas, had he published the book, there would have been a number of copies of it.

Having urged with great force the improbability of every part of the vague accusation, which was not proved, nor in any degree substantiated; he observed, that he who had expended 40,000 crowns against the Spaniards, was very unlikely to become their pensioner. He then produced in court a letter from Lord Cobham, written after his examination, and when he was on a sick-bed and thought to be on the point of death. The letter produced says—"Seeing myself so near my end, for the discharge of my conscience and freeing myself from your blood, which else will cry vengeance against me, I protest upon my salvation, I never practised with Spain by your procurement. God so comfort me in this my affliction, as you are a true subject for

any thing that I know. I will say as Pilate—*Paras sanguine hujus*. So God have mercy upon my soul, know no treason by you."

This singular letter would have been sufficient, much more than sufficient to destroy any evidence depending on the writer of it, and there was no other than even the appearance of a charge against him, but what the writer of that letter had brought forward; in short, the charges were in themselves so absurd and improbable and so entirely unsupported, that it would be as absurd the other side to endeavour to say more against them.

Mr. Attorney General (Sir Edward Coke), who felt well the hollow and unequal ground on which he stood, in his endeavour at argument, began by loading Sir Walter with abuse and insult, calling him the most notorious traitor ever came to that bar. That his schemes were directed equally against the religion of the country as against the king, and that when he had taken off the one he would have altered the other, and established popery in its place. Mr. Attorney General added, that he was a viper and a monster, with an English face, but with a Spanish heart, against whom there was no occasion to confront the witnesses, his criminality was evident, (here the Lord Justice said, the statute requiring that was repealed, and the Court concurred with him, though they could produce no act for repealing it) and that he was a reptile and the curse of the earth.

Mr. Attorney General went still farther, and said, that the king would be dethroned in less than a year, if a traitor could not be condemned upon circumstances; that it would be very dangerous for his majesty to acquit the prisoner protesting, in a solemn manner before his Maker, that he never knew a crime of treason more clearly made out than that against Sir Walter, who was the most vile and execrable traitor that ever existed in the world.

Here the prisoner interrupted the eloquent career of his Majesty's Attorney General, whose irascible zeal and scurrillity seemed to out-run all bounds.

*Sir Walter*—"You speak indiscreetly and barbarously."

*Attorney General*—"I cannot find words to express such viperous treasons."

*Sir Walter*—"I think you want words indeed, for you have repeated one thing half a dozen times."

*Attorney General*—"Thou art an odious fellow; thy name is hateful to all England for thy pride."

*Sir Walter*—"It will then go near to prove a measuring cast between you and me, Mr. Attorney."

Mr. Attorney, in order to cut short this altercation, in which he by no means had the advantage, produced Lord Cobham's letter, in which he says, that Raleigh sent to him in the Tower, to retract what he had said.

Raleigh answered candidly to this, "That it was true he did send a poor fellow to throw a letter into his window, containing these words:—You know you have undone me. Now write three lines to justify me."

*Lord Chief Justice*—"What have you to say to the charge of 1500*l.* pension which you were to have received from Spain?"

*Sir Walter*—"Cobham is a base, dishonourable, and a poor soul."

*Lord Chief Justice*—"I presume you are not so clear a man as you have protested all this while."

Lady Arabella Stuart was in court during the trial, and, by the organ of Lord Admiral Nottingham, declared her protest, upon her salvation, that she never dealt in any of those things, acknowledging, however, that she had received a letter from Lord Nottingham to prepare her; but that she laughed on receiving it, and immediately sent it to the king.

The evidence being now closed, and summed up by the jury withdrew, and in less than a quarter of an hour brought in their verdict *Guilty*, and judgment was passed on him as a traitor.

Sir Walter remained fourteen years a prisoner in the Tower; for though King James has been more severely censured for his conduct to that gentleman, than perhaps for any other act during his reign, yet he could not find fault on himself to sign a warrant for his execution, but at last set him at liberty.

Prince Charles, afterwards Charles the First, often used to visit this illustrious person during his imprisonment, and to amuse himself with the instructing conversation of one of the best and most extensively informed men of the age. It was heard to say, that no man but his father, would have kept such a bird in a cage—Alluding to the rare qualities of the prisoner, and the severity of his father James, who, however, it is clear, was a man, whose temperament was all milk and honey, to that of his Attorney General, in whose veins fire and vitriol seem to have circulated.

During his imprisonment in the Tower, Raleigh composed his *History of the World*, a small portion of which only, was ever published; owing to the following singular circumstance.

One afternoon, looking through his window into the courtyard of the courts in the Tower, Sir Walter saw two men quarrel, when the one actually murdered the other; and shortly after, two gentlemen, friends to Sir Walter, coming into his room, after expressing what had happened, they were so greedy in their manner of relating the story; and Sir Walter, who had seen it himself, concurred that neither was very accurate, but related it with another variation. The three witnesses disagreeing about an act so recently committed, put Sir Walter in a rage, when he took up the voluminous manu-

manu



manuscript which lay by, containing his History of the world, and threw them on a large fire that was in the room (it was Winter) exclaiming, "that it was not for him to write the History of the World, if he could not relate what he saw a quarter of an hour before."—One of his friends saved two of the volumes from the flames, but the rest were consumed.—The whole world laments that so strange an accident should have mutilated the work of so extraordinary a man.

Soon after Sir Walter was released from prison, finding that the public Exchequer was in a bad state, he proposed an expedient for replenishing it by an expedition to Guiana, in South America, to take possession of a gold mine, which he had formerly discovered on the Banks of the Ooronoko River. The ministry listened with avidity to the proposal, and numbers of the nobility and rich individuals, contributed towards the expences of the expedition, which was committed entirely to the direction of Sir Walter, who, with 10 ships, and troops in proportion, set sail for the mouth of the Ooronoko; when being arrived, he detached five companies of soldiers, under the command of captain Raleigh, his son; Captain Kemish to sail up and down the river till they discovered the Mine. An unforeseen circumstance, however, changed the face of the business: for that mine had been taken possession of by the Spaniards, who had fortified the avenues to it so effectually, that it was impossible to approach it but by force, in attempting to do which, Captain Raleigh was killed, and Captain Kemish returned with his boats to where Sir Walter lay at anchor.

It probably was not known to Sir Walter, that the Spaniards had taken possession of the mine, or at least who had not foreseen, or intended an attack of this serious nature, and feeling doubly as a father who had lost his son, and as  
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a commander of an expedition, which not only had but might engage his country in a war with Spain, proached Captain Kemish, in terms that were harsh and severe; on which the Captain returned to his cabin and shot himself. The expedition having terminated in a disastrous manner, as we were in good friendship with Spain, those who had thus made the attack upon its possessions, certainly without any authority from its Council, do so, were almost driven to despair. Some proposed to sail for France, and some for Italy, but all were afterwards returned to England. Raleigh, and four of the ships, returned and landed in Ireland, where the Admiralty intended to remain, until he could make his peace; but being persuaded to come over to England, he was immediately arrested, and carried to the Tower, from whence he made his escape; but being retaken, was ordered to execution, in virtue of the former sentence, though Fifteen Years before. No regular pardon had ever been granted, though his liberty being restored, and high command and confidence given to him, indicated still more pardon. It had rather the look of reparation of injury, it was necessary to make a sacrifice to appease Spain, and it was pretended that he never having been pardoned, he was legally executed, which sentence took place on the 12th of October, 1618, in the 66th year of his age, in consequence of the unrevoked sentence of 1603.

Thus perished a man of the first-rate merit; who was condemned in the most unjust manner, for being persecuted by Spain, to appease which nation, the sentence was executed Fifteen Years afterwards!

It is a remarkable circumstance that Sir Edward Coke, who behaved on this trial in a scurrilous and scandalous manner, trampling on the laws, and degrading the character of a lawyer, became a famous and profound lawyer himself, though nothing can ever wipe away the stain

conduct on the trial of Sir Walter left on his character, both as a lawyer and a man.

If justice knew any distinction, or paid any respect to persons, Sir Walter Raleigh certainly should, almost more than any other man, have been protected from the scurrility and abuse with which he was loaded; but it was the nature of the government, and temper of the times, that whoever opposed the ruling power in any degree, should be pursued with a bitterness proportioned to his personal talents and consequence!! Those who live under the present government, must shudder at such proceedings, and may rejoice that the excellent Constitution of England fully secures them from all such unjustifiable proceedings.

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For GRANGER'S WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

Of the SAUROMATÆ, a Singular People.

THERE is in Europe about the Moëtis, a Scythian People, called Sauromatæ, which differ from all others. Their Women mount on Horseback, draw the Bow, throw the Dart, and fight Battles, while they are Virgins. They are obliged to preserve their Virginity, till they have killed three Enemies, and are not allowed to approach their Husbands, before they have offered a certain Sacrifice by Law appointed. The married women are discharged from mounting on Horseback, and going to war, except the whole Country is obliged to take up Arms on some very urgent occasion. They have but one Breast, which is the left, for their Mothers take Care to burn off the right, while they are very young, with an instrument of Brass, made on purpose; so that this Breast ceasing to grow, all the Strength and Nourishment go to the right Arm and Shoulder.

No. 56, Mount-Street.

M. V. B.

GENERAL

GENERAL ANDREOSSI, in his *Official Correspondence*, has termed our *Statement* (in Numbers XI. and XII. of *Y*) *BONAPARTE'S HORRID CRUELITIES in EGYPT*, "a most atrocious and disgusting calumny," Sir ROBERT WILSON, since written the following *Letter of Reply*, which we consider as conclusive on the Subject.

To the EDITOR.

Sir,

IN the official correspondence lately published, there are some remarks, which the French Ambassador was instructed to make on my *History of the Expedition to Egypt*, which I feel called upon to take notice, not in personal controversy with General Andreossi, for, conscious of the prior virtue of my cause, I find myself neither aggrieved or irritated by the language he has used; but that the public may not attribute my silence to a desire of evading the discussion, and thus the shallow mode of contradiction adopted by the Chief Consul acquire an unmerited colouration.

The ambassador observes, "That a Colonel in the British army has published a work in England, filled with the most atrocious and disgusting calumnies against the French army and its General. The lies it contains have been contradicted by the reception which Colonel Sebastiani has received. The publicity of his report was at once a refutation and reparation, which the French army had a right to expect."

"But surely a new signification must have been attached in France to the word calumny, when such a term is applied to my account of the conduct of the French troops in Egypt, and the consequent disposition of the inhabitants towards them."

“ Independent, however, of the proofs to be adduced in corroboration of my statement, Europe may justly appreciate the probable truth of what I have written, when she recollects the unparalleled sufferings endured by the unoffending countries into which, during the last war, a French army penetrated; and she will at least hesitate to believe that the same armies should voluntarily ameliorate their conduct in a country more remote, where the atrocities they might commit would be less liable to publicity, and that this extraordinary change should be in favour of a people, whose principles and resistance might have excited the resentment of more generous invaders.

“ I will not enter into an unnecessary detail of the numerous facts which I could urge; but I appeal to the honour of every British Officer employed in Egypt, whether those observations are not sacredly true, which describe the French as being hateful to the inhabitants of that country, which represent them as having merited that hatred from the ruin and devastation with which their progress through it has been marked; and I am ready, if there be one who refuses to sanction this relation, to resign for ever every pretension to honourable reputation, and submit, without a farther struggle, to that odium which should attach to calumny and a wilful perversion of truth.

“ But, Sir, I feel confident there is no individual, who will not amply confirm all that I have written on this subject; and perhaps Europe has a right to condemn me for not having made the accusations still stronger, when I can produce frequent General Orders of the French army, for the destruction of villages and their inhabitants; when I can prove, that above 20,000 of the natives perished by the swords of the French soldiery; and that every act of violence was committed, and particularly in Upper Egypt, which could outrage humanity and disgrace the character of civilised nations. When writing a History of the campaign,

was it possible not to express indignation against the authors of such calamities? Would it have been natural not to have felt the animation of that virtuous pride, which a reflection on the different conduct of the British soldiery must excite in the breast of every Briton? I have asserted that a British soldier could traverse alone through any part of Egypt, and even penetrate into the Desert, secure from injury or insult. I have described the natives as considering the British as benefactors and protectors, soliciting opportunities to express their gratitude, and esteeming their uniform as sacred as the turban of Mahometanism; and I may venture to predict that hereafter the French traveller will be compelled to conceal the name of his nation, and owe his security to the assumption of the British character.

“ But, Sir, does the effect of Colonel Sebastiani’s report justify the Chief Consul’s conclusion, that it is “a complete refutation of what I have advanced,” even if we attribute to that report implicit belief in its candour and veracity? Is it possible that the Chief Consul can suppose the world will trace respect for the French name in the circumstance which occurred to Colonel Sebastiani at Cairo, and which rendered it necessary for him to demand protection from the Pasha? or would he imagine that the apologue of d’Ossoli Pacha was not intelligible even previous to the instruction being published which M. Talleyrand sent to the British commercial agents?

“ That illustrious Senator, to whose virtues and prodigious talents England owes so much of her prosperity, has declared that this report of Colonel Sebastiani in no way contradicts my statement; and I should consider that his opinion as amply sufficient to remove any impression which the French Ambassador’s note might otherwise have produced. did I not think it a duty to press some observations on a part of the paragraph which alludes to the direct accusation against General Bonaparte, that the public may know

fully aware of the important responsibility which I had voluntarily undertaken, and in which much national honour was involved. I would wish the world seriously to examine, whether the accuser or accused have shrunk from the investigation, and then hold him as guilty who has withdrawn from the tribunal of enquiry.

“ I avowed that I was his public accuser; I stood prepared to support the charges. The Courts of my Country were open to that mode of trial, which, as an innocent man, he could alone have required, but of which he did not dare to avail himself. It was no anonymous libeller against whom he was to have filed his answer, but against one (and without any indecent vanity I may say it), whose rank and character would have justified his most serious attention.

“ The charges were too awful to be treated with neglect, and we know that they have not been read with indifference. Nor is it possible that the First Consul can imagine the fame of General Bonaparte is less sullied, because a few snuff-boxes bearing his portrait were received by some abject or avaricious individuals with expressions of esteem. Or can he hope, that the contemptible, but not less unworthy insinuation, directed against the gallant and estimable British General, will divert mankind from a reflection on the crimes with which he stands arraigned?

“ Fortunately for Europe, she is daily becoming more intimately acquainted with the character of this hitherto misconceived man; and I confess that I feel considerable gratification when I indulge the thought that I have contributed to its developement.

“ Success may, for inscrutable purposes, continue to attend him; abject senates may decree him a Throne, or the Pantheon; but History shall render injured humanity justice, and an indignant posterity inscribe on his cenotaph—

" Ille venena Colchia

" Et quicquid usquam concipitur nefas,

" Tractavit."

" I am, Sir, yours,

" ROBERT WILSON, K. M. T.

" Lieutenant-Colonel."

A Singular Account of the BOA CONSTRICTOR, an enormous SERPENT.

THIS immense animal often exceeds thirty-six feet in length; the body is very thick, of a dusky colour, and the back is interspersed with twenty-four large irregular spots, the tail is of a darker colour, and the sides are beautifully variegated with pale spots. Besides, the whole body is interspersed with small brown spots. The head is covered with small scales, and has no broad lamina betwixt the eyes, but has a black belt behind the eyes. It wants the dog-fangs, and of course its bite is not poisonous. Its tongue is fleshy and forked. Above the eyes, on each side, the head rises high. The scales of this serpent are all small, roundish, and smooth. The tail does not exceed one-eighth of the whole length of the animal. The Indians who adore this monstrous serpent, use the skins for clothes, on account of its smoothness and beauty. There are several of these skins of the above dimensions preserved, and to be seen in the different Museums in Europe, particularly in the Library and Botanic Garden of Upsal in Sweden, which has of late been greatly enriched by Count Grillenborg. The flesh of this serpent is eat by the Indians and the Negroes of Africa. Piso, Margraave, and Kerner give the following account of its method of living and catching its prey. It frequents caves and thick forests, where it conceals itself, and suddenly darts out upon strangers,

beasts, &c. When it chooses a tree for its watching-place, it supports itself by twisting its tail round the trunk or a branch, and darts down upon sheep, goats, tigers, or any animal that comes within its reach. When it lays hold of animals, especially any of the larger kind, it twists itself several times round their body, and, by the vast force of its circular muscles, bruises and breaks all their bones. After the bones are broken, it licks the skin all over, besmearing it with a gelatinous kind of saliva. This operation is intended to facilitate deglutition, and is a preparation for swallowing the whole animal. If it be a stag or any horned animal, it begins to swallow the feet first, and gradually sucks in the body, and at last the head. When the horns happen to be large, this serpent has been observed with the horns of a stag sticking out from its mouth. As the animal digests, the horns putrify, and fall off. After this serpent has swallowed a stag or a tyger, it is unable for some days to move; the hunters, who are all well acquainted with this circumstance, always take this opportunity of destroying it. When irritated, it makes a loud hissing noise. This serpent is said to cover itself over with leaves in such places as stags or other animals frequent, in order to conceal itself from their sight, and that it may the more easily lay hold of them. In the time of the Emperor Claudius, one of these serpents was killed and a young child was found in its belly, supposed to have been swallowed only a day or two before. The Constrictor abounds in Asia, Africa and America, but it is found in the greatest number, and grows to the largest size, in the more sultry parts of those Continents. Several of these frightful animals have been killed in Hindostan, and in the Islands of Ceylon and Java, which absolutely measured upwards of thirty-six feet in length.

Further

*Further Particulars of SIR JOHN DINELEY, BART.
WINDSOR CASTLE.*

HAVING in a former number given memoirs of this extraordinary character, together with the genealogy of his family, we shall here treat of the curious manner in which he receives female candidates, in consequence of his marriage proposals.

On this occasion he is dressed in an elegant satin and silk stockings, and a full-bottomed dress wig, which he never spoils with a hat, and wears the collar and order of a Nova Scotia Baronet; the collar is a broad orange ribbon, and the arms an elegant gold medal; this mark of distinction was presented to one of his predecessors by George the Second.

For the satisfaction of every lady, he produces a curious gilt morocco pocket-book, with a sight of which the present writer has been honoured, wherein are not only "four arguments" to induce the fair reader to accept his marriage offer, but the following assurance of his being entitled to the estates mentioned:

"Besides the case I have printed at large of my County of Devon estate, for you to receive at Mr. Knight's, stationer in Windsor, with precedents; one of my other five estates, which makes up eleven thousand pounds a year, is given to me by a Deed Poll, confirmed by a fine thereon ordered by my great grand-father, Sir Edward Dinely, Knt. his Highness's Windsor Castle estate. A precedent on point in this case will give you perfect satisfaction, as stated in the Morning Post and Gazetteer, on Friday, June 1, 1798. There you will find that Lord Kenyon expressed it as his opinion that the Countess of Pall having assigned her property over to her nephew, was not afterwards at liberty to abrogate or rescind that assignment; consequently under his Lordship's direction a special jury found a verdict for the plaintiff.

"The rest pray give me leave to explain at your tea-table, or elsewhere, with or without any company you please, as I am so much yours to command.

Sir JOHN DINELEY, Bart."

"Direct to me at my house
in Windsor Castle.

After some poetic effusions, it is also observed in this pocket-book, "that as the major part of acts of parliament called statutes, generally consist of ambiguous contradictions, called for brevity sake, no more than exceptions and provisos of the act itself. It is necessary to correct many obstinate students of the law, by telling them, that the cause of these contradictions are manifest, when you consider the insufficient force most acts or statutes would have without this absolute positiveness in the first statement of these acts or statutes; but this positive statement makes it evidently very dangerous for a giddy student of our law to read only by the common abridgements of it, where these exceptions seem absolutely necessary to be fully known. For instance, observe what important words are stated in the proviso of the act of Geo. II. on the 14th day of January, 1734. In this statute of time for contesting good, fabulous, common recoveries, that can only be formed where a real and good tenant can be found; but where forgery, fraud, insufficient tenant to the precept is discovered, or invaluable recompence is stated by parental power, or within the non-age of a son intail. These cases you will find are excepted out of this positive act of Geo. II. in these substantial words following; "as though such act had never been made." And observe, if this was not done, our law, in many cases, would be overturned, although in a great measure equity corrects the rigor of the law.

"Many other precedents I have stated in my printed arguments for counsel: but I trust I have now explained my vast and superb marriage offer sufficiently to satisfy the
weakest

weakest understanding, that 11,000l. a year, confined to the hands of tenants, is undeniably in the power of a qualified lady to command, with other evident superiority to invite them to matrimony, if their fortune is but so low as from 500l. to 200l. and this from a person not only handsome in verse, but by birth ennobled and furnished with many excellent qualifications, and for having five estates."

The names of several fair candidates are entered in a pocket-book, with the places of their abode (whose names probably will be recorded in a future number of this work) widows as well as spinsters; but we cannot say what objections were, or from which side they proceeded. A marriage offer of this nature (being the most successful upon record) is worthy the attention of the ladies.

It should be remarked that the worthy Baronet makes a point always to wear; when he attends during service, he appears before our gracious sovereign at St. George's Chapel, at Windsor, the Nova Scotia collar and order being mentioned.

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MR. GRANGER,

Sir,

*In a late Number of your Museum, I perused an interesting Account of the Blind Lad of Ray Street, Clerkenwell. Amongst the many remarkable qualities which that lad possesses, is mentioned a retentive memory, and several extraordinary Instances are given; but great as his powers are, they fall infinitely short of those of the individual who forms the Subject of this Communication.*

ALICK LYON, a native of Stirling, in North Britain, born blind. His father was by trade a shoemaker, and lived in indigent circumstances. Being a member of that association, and in poverty, he was entitled to place his

Allan's Hospital, a public charity in that town, which maintains fourteen boys, the children of poor tradesmen. They are received into this hospital at the age of seven, and remain I think till they are twelve, during which time they are instructed to read and write, and in arithmetic and church-music. In the first three branches of useful education, it was not to be supposed that blind Alick was to make any progress, and whatever might have been expected of him as a chorister, it was very soon discovered that he had not the smallest taste for music. As therefore he became merely a pensioner upon this charity, still that he might not acquire dissolute habits, by being suffered to go idle about the streets, the task imposed upon him was, to remain in the school-room with the other boys during the ordinary hours of teaching, and to be present while they repeated their lessons in reading to their instructor. Alick very soon displayed uncommon powers of retentive memory, for in a very short time he could repeat the whole of the church catechism usually taught to the children in this country, consisting of *107 questions with their answers*. In the schools in Scotland, when the pupils have made a certain progress in the English language, the Bible is put into their hands, which they read to their teacher from beginning to the end. This opened a new field to Alick, who was always present while his fellow students were conning over their lesson, and when they delivered it to their instructor. To state that Alick, by these means, is enabled to repeat in their order, from the beginning to the end, every verse in the Bible, may perhaps stagger credulity itself. But he not only *can* do so, but more; *upon requiring him to repeat any verse in any chapter of the Old or New Testament, upon a moment's recollection, he will do so, with the utmost correctness*. He is now, I suppose, about thirty years old, and consequently quitted the hospital eighteen years ago.

I have already mentioned, that this person was capable of being taught to turn a bar in music, yet so is his ear in one respect, combined with his powers of memory, that any person with whose name he is acquainted and who from curiosity, may have been induced frequently to converse with him, he will readily name the next time he is addressed by him, although twelve years may have intervened.

With perfect ease, he traverses the different streets of Stirling, without ever asking his way; and the different shops to which he resorts to purchase the necessaries of life, he approaches with the utmost correctness. His haunt, is what is called the *Back Walk*. This promenade commences at the south entrance to the town, and runs by the bottom of its south wall, round the south side of the castle, and terminates upon the north, near the gate in extent not less than a mile. On the one hand is the wall of the town, the rocks upon which the castle is built &c. On the other is a declivity, which indeed ought rather to be termed a precipice, upon an average more than eighty yards, and although the path is in many places more than ten feet broad, and in some much less, Alick perambulates the whole with the utmost confidence, nor was he ever known to make a false step.

Many of your countrymen who have visited Scotland (and few make a journey of pleasure to Scotland without doing so) must have seen and extended their curiosity to this wonderful person, without knowing his singular requirements. But in order that those who may have the chance to meet with Blind Alick in his solitary wanderings may have an opportunity of gratifying their curiosity as well as to furnish an article to your *Wonderful Magazine*, I have stolen a few minutes from other occupations to oblige you with this account.

I am, &c.—VER

*Singular Account of the POLYPUS, or ANIMAL FLOWER.*

As in man, the most perfect part of the sublunary creation, there are apparently seen several different degrees of perfection of body and mind; and in animals the sagacity of some evidently superior to that of others; so likewise in this seemingly confused species of animal life, and vegetable appearance, the chain gradually descends with a surprising mixture and connexion.

Whoever has leisure and abilities to pursue a general enquiry of this nature, will soon find, that this progressive series runs through the whole creation, from the most exalted genius to the almost senseless idiots; from the most sagacious sensible creature to the almost insensible muscle; from the towering cedar to the hyssop springing from the wall, or the humble moss.

Such is that universal harmony and connexion, that runs through the numberless ranks and orders of beings, till we come at last to inanimate matter.

The following account of this surprising creature is extracted from the Reverend Mr. Hughes's Natural History of Barbadoes; a work which, for the delightfulness of the subject, and the agreeable manner in which it is executed, highly deserves the perusal of the curious.

"The cave that contains this animal is near the bottom of a high rocky cliff, facing the sea, in the north part of the island, in the parish of St. Lucy: the descent to it is very steep and dangerous, being in some places almost perpendicular; and what adds an horror to this dreadful situation, is, that the waves from below almost incessantly break upon the cliff, and sometimes reach its highest summit. As soon as you are freed from this complicated apprehension of danger (in your way down), you enter a cave, spacious enough to contain 500 people. The roof of

this is in some places embossed with conglaciated incrustations, intermixed with small tubes, through whose extrudities a small quantity of the most limpid water drops.

“ From this you enter another cave, small in comparison of the former. The bottom of this is a natural basin of water, about 16 feet long, and 12 in breadth. This low water, is about 11 feet perpendicular height from the sea, which, when the wind is high on that point, drives into it, so that the water in it is entirely salt, except a small quantity of fresh, which oozes and drops through the roof of the cave.

“ In the middle of this basin there is a fixed stone rock, (as I shall call it) which is always under water.

“ Round its sides at different depths (seldom exceeding 18 inches) are seen at all times of the year, several amazingly fine radiated flowers, of a pale yellow, or a light straw colour, slightly tinged with green.

“ These have in appearance a circular border of set petals, about the size of, and much resembling, that of a single garden marigold, except that the whole of the seeming flower is narrower at the discus, or setting of the leaves, than any flower of that kind.

“ I have attempted to pluck one of these from the rock to which they are always fixed, but could never effect it for as soon as my finger came within two or three inches of it, it would immediately contract and close together the yellow border, and shrink back into the hole in the rock; but, if left undisturbed for the space of about four minutes it would come gradually in sight, expanding, though at a very cautiously, its seeming leaves, till at last it appeared in its former bloom; however, it would again recoil with a surprising quickness, when my hand came within a few inches distance of it.

“ Having tried the same experiment, by attempting



touch it with my cane, and a small slender rod, the effect was the same.

“ These were strong appearances of animal life; yet as its shape, and want of local motion, classed it among vegetables, I was for some time in suspense, and imagined it might be an aquatic sensitive plant; and though its contraction, to avoid the touch, was quicker than any plant of that kind; yet, as its seeming leaves might be, and in reality were, of a far thinner and more delicate texture than those of any plant, and as water is eight hundred times heavier than air, the sudden weight of so thick a medium, by its undulation, caused by the pressure of my hand or stick, might very well account for its sudden contraction.

“ This was my opinion till a subsequent visit cleared my doubts; for I plainly saw four dark-coloured resemblances of threads, something like the legs of a spider, rising out of the centre of what I have termed a flower. Their quick spontaneous motion from one side to the other of this circular yellow border of seeming leaves (which, in reality, were so many arms or feelers) and their closing together in imitation of forceps, as if they had hemmed in their prey (which the yellow border likewise soon surrounded and closed to secure) fully convinced me that it was a living creature.

“ Its body, at a distance, appears to be about as big as a raven's quill, and of a blackish colour, the one end sticking to the rock, the other extended a very small distance from it, and encircled round with a yellow border, as above described.

“ Thus what in its first appearance seems to be of the vegetable kind, by its motion and quick sense of self-preservation, proves an animal.

“ Now, since the same wisdom and goodness which give being to creatures, often preserve them in that existence

ence by ways and means as wonderful as their creation before; this leads me to offer a probable conjecture of God's amazing providence (which does nothing in vain) endued the arms or feelers of this animal with a fine low colour, and hath ordained it to differ in this particular from the several tribes of fungous animals that are found cleaving to the rocks in the sea.

“ As these latter may be fed with spawn, or some animalcules, which the flux or reflux of the waves may bring in their way, there was no need of any uncommon art to entice their prey (if animals) within their reach; as the water in the cave is, for the most part, void of motion that can convey food for these animals. Therefore there was a necessity of some extraordinary temptation to allure their prey within their power, to seize it; or else they might starve in the midst of plenty.

“ To this end that divine goodness which filleth all living things with plenteousness, hath finely devised this providential stratagem (if I may use the expression) given these animals that fine transparent colour, which serves to mean to provide for them their daily food; for as the rays of light (or something similar in its effects) are so inviting to animals, especially those of the aquatic kind, the beautiful colour of this circular border may serve as a decoy for very young fish, or other animalcules, to come themselves (as flies about the flame of a candle) in quest of something about the verge of this seemingly harmless circle; until they come within the circle; then these bright colours in appearance prove, in reality, so many arms or feelers that with a quick motion close together, and surround the prey; which, being thus secured, is conveyed to the mouth as above mentioned.

“ There are likewise in the uppermost part of the polypus, in the above basin, innumerable clusters of (what a

called) water bottles, very much resembling scattered clusters of unripe grapes, the outside consisting of a bluish skinny tegument, like that of a grape; the inside full of water, somewhat turbid.

“ Among these also are a great number of animal flowers, of the same species with the yellow large ones. These now to be described are likewise fixed to the rock, not in holes, as the above, but sticking to the surface among these water bottles, and generally not above nine inches under water.

“ The leaves, or rather feelers, of these, are of a greyish purple colour, variegated with black spots. Their motion likewise to avoid the touch is not so quick. Having plucked one of these from the rock, I perceived the body, which was about an inch long, to have, whilst between my finger and thumb, a sensible vermicular motion. The feelers, likewise, which decorated one end of it, when exposed to the air, shrunk up, and remained as lifeless; but as soon as the whole was dipped in their proper element, the water, they would immediately, as it were, assume a new life, and appear again in their full vigour.

“ Soon after the discovery of these surprising animals, a great number of people came to view them; but, as this was attended with some small inconvenience to a person through whose land they are obliged to pass, he therefore, to get rid of the company, resolved to destroy the object of their curiosity. In order to do so more effectually, he took a piece of iron prepared for that purpose, and then carefully bored and drilled every part of the holes where these seeming flowers were bred; but to his great surprise, they in a few weeks appeared again issuing from the same holes.

“ Let us stop, and see whether our much boasted reason can find out how even a latent principle of life can be preserved, after the whole organick body is torn in pieces.

“ When

“ When we see this creature in a short time after it is cut off, it recovers its former proportion, beauty, and appear in its former proportion; beautiful life, can we, after such an ocular demonstration of an astonishing change in an animal destined for this life, and removed (in all appearance) but a few degrees from the vegetable creation, any longer entertain doubts of the possibility of another doctrine of a far greater consequence.

“ There are also small bluish animal flowers, which grow in clusters upon the rocks between high and low water mark. The edges of each are composed of a circular border of small fistular thread-like brown Petals, furnished with a fungous substance, and of a bluish green colour.”

T. Bo

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*An Account of OLD SCALEITS, otherwise SCARLET,
of Peterborough Cathedral.*

IN the Cathedral of Peterborough, in Northamptonshire, at the west end, there is an antient portrait still hanging of Old Scaleits, who was many years Sexton to that Cathedral in the sixteenth century. This picture, we understand, was copied from a more antient painting, destroyed by damp and time; fragments of which are now remaining in the cathedral. He is drawn at full length, having on his breast the insignia of his profession, such as the spade, pick, rock, keys, &c. From this picture our engraving is exactly copied. Under the picture are the following words, by which it appears he interred two queens in Peterborough Cathedral, who were Catharine, Queen of Henry VIII. and Mary Queen of Scots, whose remains were afterwards removed to Windsor.

You see old Scaleits' picture stand on hie,
But at your feet, there doth his bodie lye;

Wonderful Museum



Old SCALEITS,

The Celebrated Sexton of Peterborough

Pub^d by Alex^r Henry, (Peterborough, 1847)

His gravestone doth his age and death-time shewe,
 His office, by these tokens, you may know :
 Second to none for strength, and sturdye limm,
 A scare-babe mighty voice, with visage grim.
 Hee had enterr'd two queens within this place,
 And his Twones House-holders in his lives space
 Twice over : but at length his own turne came,
 What he for others did, for him the same
 Was done : no doubt his soul doth live, for aye
 In heaven ; though here his body's clad in clay.

On a square stone below these verses is the following
 inscription :

July 2, 1594.

R. S.

Ætatis 98.

Singular History of the SALAMANDER.

THE salamander has a short cylindrical tail, four toes on the fore-feet, and a naked porous body. This animal has been said, even in the Philosophical Transactions, to live in the fire ; but this is found to be a mistake. It is generated in the southern countries of Europe. The following account of this species is extracted from the Count de la Cépède's Natural History of Serpents. Whilst the hardest bodies cannot resist the violence of fire, the world have endeavoured to make us believe that a small lizard can not only withstand the flames, but even extinguish them. As agreeable fables readily gain belief, every one has been eager to adopt that of a small animal so highly privileged, so superior to the most powerful agent in nature, and which could furnish so many objects of comparison to poetry, so many pretty emblems to love, and so many brilliant devices to valour. The antients believed this property of the sala-

mander, wishing that its origin might be as surprising power; and, being desirous of realizing the ingenious fictions of the poets, they have pretended that it owes its existence to the purest of elements, which cannot confer life, and they have called it the daughter of fire, giving it however a body of ice. The moderns have followed the ridiculous tales of the ancients; and, as it is difficult to stop where nature has passed the bounds of probability, some have gone so far as to think that the most violent fire could be extinguished by the land salamander. Quacks sold this small animal affirming, that, when thrown into the greatest conflagration, it would check its progress. It was very necessary that philosophers and naturalists should take the trouble to prove by facts what reason alone might have demonstrated, and it was not till after the light of science was diffused abroad, that the world gave over believing in this wonderful property of the salamander. This lizard, which is found in so many countries of the ancient world, and even in very high latitudes, has been however very little noticed, because it is seldom seen out of its hole, and because for a long time it has inspired much terror. Even Aristotle considered it as of an animal with which he was scarcely acquainted.

One of the largest of this species, preserved in Linnæus's cabinet, is seven inches five lines in length, from the end of the muzzle to the root of the tail, which is six inches eight lines. The skin does not appear to be covered with scales, but it is furnished with a number of excrescences like teats, containing a great many holes, several of which may be very plainly distinguished by the naked eye, and through which a kind of milk oozes, that gradually spreads itself in such a manner as to form a transparent coat of varnish above the skin of this oviparous quadruped, which is usually dry.

The eyes of the salamander are placed in the upper

the head, which is a little flattened; their orbit projects into the interior part of the palate, and is there almost surrounded by a row of very small teeth, like those in the jaw-bones: these teeth establish a near relation between lizards and fishes; many species of which have also several teeth placed in the bottom of the mouth. The colour of this lizard is very dark: upon the belly it has a bluish cast, intermixed with pretty large irregular yellow spots, which extend over the whole body, and even to the feet and eye-lids; some of these spots are besprinkled with small black specks; and those which are upon the back often touch without interruption, and form two long yellow bands. The colour must, however, be subject to vary; and it appears that some salamanders are found in the marshy forests of Germany, which are quite black above and yellow below. To this variety we must refer the black salamander, found by Mr Laurenti in the Alps, which he considered as a distinct species.

The salamander has no ribs; neither have frogs, to which it has a great resemblance in the general form of the anterior part of its body. When touched, it suddenly covers itself with that kind of coat of which we have spoken, and it can only very rapidly change its skin from a state of humidity to a state of dryness. The milk which issues from the small holes in its surface is very acrid; when put upon the tongue, one feels as it were a kind of scar at the part which it touched. This milk, which is considered as an excellent substance for taking off hair, has some resemblance to that which distils from those plants esula and euphorbium. When the salamander is crushed, or when it is only pressed, it exhales a bad smell, which is peculiar to it.

Salamanders are fond of cold damp places, thick shades, tufted woods, or high mountains, and the banks of streams that run through meadows: they sometimes retire in great numbers to hollow trees, hedges, and below old rotten stumps;

stumps; and they pass the winter in places of high latitudes in a kind of burrows, where they are found collected, several of them being joined and twisted together. The salamander being destitute of claws, having only four toes on each of the fore feet, and no advantage of conformation to make up its deficiencies, its manner of living must, indeed the case, be very different from that of other lizards. It walks very slowly; far from being able to climb with rapidity, it often appears to drag itself with great difficulty along the surface of the earth. It seldom goes far from the place of shelter it has fixed on; it passes its life under the earth, often at the bottom of old walls during summer; it dreads the heat of the sun, which would dry it; it is commonly only when rain is about to fall that it comes forth from its secret asylum, as if by a kind of necessity to bathe itself, and to imbibe an element to which it is analogous. Perhaps it finds then with greatest facility those insects upon which it feeds. It lives upon flies, beetles, snails, and earth-worms; when it reposes, it rolls up itself in several folds like serpents. It can remain some time in the water without danger, and it casts a very thin pellucid greenish grey colour. Salamanders have even been kept more than six months in the water of a well without giving them any food; care only was taken to change the water often.

It has been remarked, that, every time a salamander is plunged into the water, it attempts to raise its nostrils above the surface as if to seek for air, which is a new proof of the need that all oviparous quadrupeds have to breathe during the time they are not in a state of torpor. The salamander has apparently no ears, and in this it resembles serpents. It has even been pretended that it does not hear, and on this account it has got the name of *sourd* in some provinces of France. This is very probable, as it has never been

heard to utter any cry, and silence in general is coupled with deafness.

Having then perhaps one sense less than other animals, and being deprived of the faculty of communicating its sensations to those of the same species, even by imperfect sounds, it must be reduced to a much inferior degree of instinct: it is therefore very stupid; and not bold, as has been reported: it does not brave danger, as is pretended, but it does not perceive it. Whatever gestures one makes to frighten it, it always advances without turning aside; however, as no animal is deprived of that sentiment necessary for its preservation, it suddenly compresses its skin, as is said, when tormented, and spurts forth upon those who attack it that corrosive milk which is under it. If beat, it begins to raise its tail: afterwards it becomes motionless, as if stunned by a kind of paralytic stroke; for we must not, with some naturalists, ascribe to an animal so devoid of instinct, so much art and cunning as to counterfeit death. In short, it is difficult to kill it; but when dipped in vinegar, or surrounded with salt reduced to powder, it expires in convulsions, as is the case with several other lizards and worms.

It seems one cannot allow a being a chimerical quality, without refusing it at the same time a real property. The cold salamander has been considered as an animal endued with the miraculous power of resisting, and even of extinguishing fire; but, at the same time, it has been debased as much as elevated by this singular property. It has been made the most fatal of animals: the ancients, and even Pliny, have devoted it to a kind of anathema, by affirming that its poison is the most dangerous of all. They have written, that, infecting with its poison almost all the vegetables of a large country, it might cause the destruction of whole nations. The moderns also for a long time believed the salamander to be very poisonous; they have said, that
its

its bite is mortal, like that of the viper; they have out and prescribed remedies for it; but they have not had recourse to observations, by which they ought to have begun. The famous Bacon wished naturalists would endeavour to ascertain the truth respecting the poison of the salamander. Gesner proved by experiments that its bite, whatever means were used to irritate it; and Rayninus shewed that it might safely be touched, and that it might without danger drink the water of those wells in which it inhabited. M. de Maupertuis studied also the nature of this lizard. In making researches to discover what was its pretended poison, he demonstrated experimentally that fire acted upon the salamander in the same manner as upon all other animals. He remarked, that it was not upon the fire, when it appeared to be covered with the milk of its milk, which, rarified by the heat, issued through the pores of the skin, but in greater quantity from the mouth and dug, and that it immediately became hard. It is needless to say, that this milk is not sufficiently abundant to extinguish even the smallest fire. M. de Maupertuis, in the course of his experiments, in vain irritated several salamanders: none of them ever opened their mouths, he was obliged to open them by force. As the teeth of the lizard are but small, it was very difficult to find any with a skin sufficiently fine to be penetrated by them. He tried without success to force them into the flesh of a chicken stripped of its feathers; he in vain pressed them against the skin: they were displaced, but they could not enter. He however made a salamander bite the thigh of a man after he had taken off a small part of the skin. He made salamanders newly caught bite also the tongue and leg of a dog, as well as the tongue of a turkey; but none of the animals received the least injury. M. de Maupertuis afterwards made a dog and a turkey swallow salamanders.

or cut into pieces ; and yet neither of them appeared to be sensible of the least uneasiness.—Mr. Laurenti since made experiments with the same view : he forced grey lizards to swallow the milk proceeding from the salamander, and they died very suddenly. The milk, therefore, of the salamander, taken internally, may hurt, and even be fatal to, certain animals, especially those which are small ; but it does not appear to be hurtful to large animals.

It was long believed that the salamander was of no sex ; and that each individual had the power of engendering its like, as several species of worms. This is not the most absurd fable which has been imagined with respect to the salamander ; but, if the manner in which they come into the world is not so marvellous as has been written, it is remarkable in this, that it differs from that in which most other lizards are brought forth, as it is analogous to that in which the chalcide and the seps, as well as vipers and several kinds of serpents, are produced. On this account the salamander merits the attention of naturalists much more on account of the false and brilliant reputation which it has so long enjoyed. M. de Maupertuis having opened some salamanders, found eggs in them, and at the same time some young perfectly formed ; the eggs were divided into two long bunches like grapes, and the young were enclosed in two transparent bags ; they were equally well formed as the old ones, and much more active. The salamander, therefore, brings forth young from an egg hatched within its belly as the viper ; and her fecundity is very great : naturalists have long written that she has forty or fifty at one time ; and M. de Maupertuis found forty-two young ones in the body of a female salamander, and fifty-four in another.

The young salamanders are generally of a black colour, almost without spots ; and this colour they sometimes preserve during

during their whole lives in certain countries, where they have been taken for a distinct species, as we have said. Mr. Thunberg has given, in the *Memoirs of the Academy of Sciences*, the description of a lizard, which he calls the Japanese lizard, and which appears not to differ from our salamander in the arrangement of its colours. This animal is black, with several whitish and irregular spots, both on the upper part of the body and below the paws; on the lower part there is a strip of dirty white, which becomes narrower towards the point of the tail. This whitish stripe is interspersed with very small specks which form the distinguishing characteristic of our land salamander. We are of opinion, therefore, that we may consider this Japanese lizard as described by Mr. Thunberg, as a variety of the species of our land salamander, modified a little, perhaps, by the climate of Japan. It is in the largest island of that empire named Nippon, that this variety is found. It inhabits the mountains there, and rocky places. The Japanese consider it as a powerful stimulant, and a very active remedy, and on this account, in the neighbourhood of Japan a number of these Japanese salamanders may be seen hanging from the ceiling of the shops.

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*Curious Account of an ARTIFICIAL NOSE.*

A GENTLEMAN has transmitted from the East Indies the following very curious, and in Europe, we believe, unknown chirurgical operation, which has long been practised in India with success; namely, affixing a new nose on a man's face.

Cowasjee, a Mahratta of the cast of husbandmen, and bullock-driver with the English army in the war of 1782, and was made a prisoner by Tippoo, who cut off his nose and one of his hands. In this state he joined the British Army, near Seringapatam, and is now a pensioner

Hon.

Honourable East India Company. For above twelve months he remained without a nose, when he had a new one put on by a man of the brick-maker cast, near Poonah. This operation is not uncommon in India, and has been practised from time immemorial. Two of the medical gentlemen, Mr. Thomas Cruso and Mr. James Trindlay, of the Bombay Presidency, have seen it performed, as follows:

A thin plate of wax is fitted to the stump of the nose, so as to make a nose of good appearance. It is then flattened, and laid on the forehead. A line is drawn round the wax, and the operator then dissects off as much skin as it covered, leaving undivided a small slip between the eyes. This slip preserves the circulation till an union has taken place between the new and old parts. The cicatrix of the stump of the nose is next pared off, and immediately behind this raw part, an incision is made through the skin, which passes around both alæ, and goes along the upper lip.

The skin is now brought down from the forehead, and, being twisted half round, its edge is inserted into this incision, so that a nose is formed with a double hold above, and with its alæ and septum below fixed in the incision. A little terra japonica is softened with water, and being spread on slips of cloth, five or six of these are placed over each other, to secure the joining. No other dressing but this cement is used for four days. It is then removed, and cloths dipped in ghee (a kind of buller) are applied. The connecting slips of skin are divided about the 25th day, when a little more dissection is necessary to improve the appearance of the new nose. For five or six days after the operation, the patient is made to lie on his back, and, on the tenth day, bits of soft cloth are put into the nostrils, to keep them sufficiently open. This operation is very ge-

nerally successful. The artificial nose is secure, and nearly as well as the natural one; nor is the scar of the forehead very observable after a length of time.

J. R.

*A Curious Account of the MINES in CORNWALL.*

CORNWALL abounds in mines of different metals; but the principal produce is tin. The ancients early visited these coasts for this article, some 400 or 450 years before Christ; and the mines continued to be wrought with various success at different periods. In the time of King John they appear to have yielded a great emolument; the right of working them being reserved in the king as Earl of Cornwall, and the mines farmed out to the Jews for one hundred marks; and, according to the proportion, the tenth of it, six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, is at this day paid by the crown to the Bishop of Exeter. In the time of Richard king of the Romans and earl of Cornwall, the tin-mines were very rich; the Jews being farmed out to him by his father Henry III. what interest they had was at his disposal. When Spanish tin-mines being stopped by the Moors, and silver discovered in Germany, the Malabar coast, or the West Indies, Cornwall and its earls had all the trade of Europe for it. The Jews being banished the kingdom in 18 Edward I. they were again neglected till the year 1270 of Blackmore, lords of seven tythings best stored with tin, obtained of Edmund earl of Cornwall, son of Richard king of the Romans, a charter under his seal, with more explicit grants of privileges, courts, and parliaments, and the toll-tin or one fifteenth of all tin raised. At this time too the right of bounding or dividing tin-grounds into separate partitions for the encouragement



of searching for it seems to have been first appointed, or at least adjusted. This charter was confirmed 33 Edward I. and the Cornish separated from the Devonshire tinnerns. Their laws, particularly recited in Plowden's Commentaries, p. 237, were farther explained 50 Edward III. confirmed and enlarged by parliament, 8 Richard II. 3 Edward IV. 1 Edward VI. 1 and 2 Ph. and M. and 2 Elizabeth; and the whole society divided into four parts under one general warden to do justice in law and equity, from whose sentence lies an appeal to the Duke of Cornwall in council, or, for want of a Duke of Cornwall, to the crown. The lord-warden appoints a vice-warden, to determine all stannary disputes every month: he also constitutes four stewards, one for each of the precincts before-mentioned, who hold their courts every three weeks, and decide by juries of six persons, with an appeal reserved to the vice-warden, lord-warden, and lord of the prince's council. In difficult cases the lord-warden by commission, issues his precept to the four principal towns in the stannary districts, who each choose six members, and these twenty-four stannators constitute the parliament of tinnerns. Each stannator chooses an assistant, making a kind of standing council in a different apartment, to give information to the prince. Whatever is enacted by the body of tinnerns must be signed by the stannators, the lord-warden, or his deputy, and by the duke or the king, and thenceforward has with regard to tin-affairs all the authority of an act of the whole legislature. Five towns are appointed in the most convenient parts of the county for the tinnerns to bring their tin to every quarter of a year. These are Lescard, Lestwithiel, Truro, Helston, and Penzance; the last was added by Charles II. for the conveniency of the western tinnerns. In the time of Henry VIII. there were but two coinages, at Midsummer and Michaelmas: two more at Christmas and Lady-day

were added, for which the tinnerns pay an acknowl-  
 called *Past groats*, or 4d. for every hundred of w  
 then coined. The officers appointed by the duke  
 and, if well purified, stamp it by a hammer with th  
 seal, the arms of Richard earl of Cornwall, a lion  
 G. crowned O. within a bordure of bezants S: and  
 a permission to the coiner to sell, and is called *coin*  
*tin*. Every hundred of white tin so coined pays to  
 4s. The tin of the whole county, which, in Carev  
 in the last century, amounted to 30 or 40,000l. ye  
 for twenty-four years last past amounted one year w  
 ther to 180,000 or 190,000l. sterling. Of this th  
 of Cornwall receives for his 4s. duty on every hur  
 white tin above 10,000l. yearly; the bounders or pro  
 of the soil about one sixth at a medium clear, or about  
 yearly; the rest goes to the adventurers in the min  
 are at all the charge of working. Tin is found o  
 and fixed in lodes and floes, or in grains and bu  
 the natural rock, or loose and detached in single  
 stones called *shodes* or *streams*, or in a continued co  
 such stones called the *beuhayl* or *living streams*, or in  
 riaceous pulverized state. It is most easily discovered  
 cing the lodes by the scattered fragments of them calle  
 by leave of the lord of the soil or the bounder. T  
 being divided among the lords and adventurers, is  
 and worked at the mill; and being thus dressed is  
 under the name of *black tin* to the melting house, w  
 is melted by Welsh pit-coal, and poured, into blocks  
 lb. weight, and carried to the coinage town. Mu  
 scarce metal or mineral ore, of a white, brassy, or  
 colour, is found in large quantities, intermixed w  
 copper, and lead, and sometimes by itself. Iron  
 found in Cornwall, but the working it does not  
 There is no richer copper, nor a greater variet

where than in this country. Silver, if really found here in the reigns of Edward I. and II. has been rarely found since, nor do the lead-mines answer. Very late discoveries have proved that Cornwall has more gold than was formerly imagined. What is called the *Cornish diamond* is a figured crystal, generally hexagonal and pyramidal or columnar, or both, of a fine clear water, and of all our bastard diamonds in this nation esteemed the best, and some of different colours, black, yellow, &c. The clearer these are, the better they will bear engraving for seals.



*A genuine Narrative of the deplorable Deaths of the English Gentlemen and others who were suffocated in the Prison called the BLACK HOLE, in FORT WILLIAM at CALCUTTA; in the Kingdom of BENGAL, after the Surrender of that Place to the Indians in June 1756, from a Letter of J. Z. Holwell, Esq. Governor of Calcutta, and one of the survivors, to William Davis, Esq.*

THE ill conduct of Drake, governor of Calcutta, who had, among other things, unjustly imprisoned a very considerable merchant of the country, whose name was Omychund, and who was a Gentoo, having drawn the resentment of the viceroy upon the factory, he marched against it in person, with a very considerable force, and laid siege to the fort. Drake, who had brought on this misfortune, no sooner saw it approach, than he deserted his station, and left the gentlemen of the factory and the garrison to shift for themselves. As soon as Drake was gone, Mr. Holwell, from whose letter this account is taken, took the command upon himself, and resolved to defend the place as long as he was able. This voluntary opposition of Mr. Holwell incensed the viceroy against him; and supposing, that he would not have undertaken a work of supererogation, attended with such fatigue and danger, upon disinterested principles,

principles, he made no doubt but that there were great treasures in the fort, in which he was deeply concerned as a proprietor; he therefore pushed on the siege with great vigour.

*A very good account of the whole transaction is given by Holwell, in his letter, in the following manner.*

“ The suba, or viceroy of Bengal, and his troops in possession of the fort, before six in the evening. At the third interview with him, before seven, he repeated his assurances to me, on the word of a soldier, that no harm should come to us: and, indeed, I believe his orders were general, that we should for that night be secured; and what followed was the result of revenge and resentment. The breasts of the lower Jemautdaars, or Sergeants (whose custody we were delivered) for the number of men order killed during the siege. Be this as it may, as it was dark, we were all, without distinction, directed by the guard set over us to collect ourselves into one body, and sit fit down quietly under the arched Veranda, or Piazza, at the west of the Black-hole prison, and the barracks at the left of the court of guard. Just as it was dark, about 500 men, who were drawn up upon the parade, were ordered, and ordered us all to rise and go into the barracks. We were no sooner all within them, than the guard advanced to the inner arches and parapet wall; and, with their muskets presented, ordered us to go into the room at the farthest end of the barrack, commonly called the Black-hole prison. Few amongst us, the soldiers excepted, had the least idea of the dimensions or nature of a place we had never seen; for if we had, we should, at all events, have rushed upon the guard, and been, as the lesser evil, by our own choice cut to pieces.

Amongst the first that entered were myself, Mr. Baillie, Jenks, Cooke, T. Coles, Ensign Scott, I

Law, Buchanan, &c. I got possession of the window nearest the door, and Messieurs Coles and Scott into the window with me, they being both wounded (the first I believe mortally.) The rest of the above mentioned gentlemen were close round about me. It was now about eight o'clock.

Figure to yourself, my friend, if possible, the situation of a hundred and forty-six wretches, exhausted by continual fatigue and action, crammed together in a cube of eighteen feet, in a close sultry night, in Bengal, shut up to the eastward and southward (the only quarters from whence air could reach us) by dead walls, and by a wall and door to the north, open only to the westward by two windows, strongly barred with iron, from which we could receive scarce any the least circulation of fresh air.

What must ensue, appeared to me in lively and dreadful colours, the instant I cast my eyes round and saw the size and situation of the room. Many unsuccessful attempts were made to force the door; for having nothing but our hands to work with, and the door opening inward, all endeavours were vain and fruitless . . . .

Amongst the guards posted at the windows, I observed an old Jemmutdaar near me, who seemed to carry some compassion for us in his countenance. I called him to me, and pressed him to endeavour to get us separated, half in one place and half in another, and that he should in the morning receive a thousand rupees for this act of tenderness. He withdrew; but in a few minutes returned, and told me it was impossible. I then thought I had been deficient in my offer, and promised him two thousand: he withdrew a second time, but returned soon, and (with, I believe, much real pity and concern) told me, that it could not be done but by the suba's order, and that no one dared awake him.

We had been but few minutes confined before every one fell into a perspiration so profuse, you can form no idea of it,

it. This brought on a raging thirst, which increased in proportion as the body was drained of its moisture.

Various expedients were thought of to give more light and air. To obtain the former, it was moved to the wall; and their clothes: this was approved as a happy motion. In a few minutes, I believe every man was stripped (except Mr. Court, and the two young gentlemen by me excepted). For a little time they flattered themselves with having gained a mighty advantage; every hat was put in motion to produce a circulation of air, and Mr. Baillie proposed that every man was to sit down on his hams. This experiment was several times put in practice, and at each time more the poor creatures, whose natural strength was less than that of others, or who had been more exhausted and could not immediately recover their legs, as others did when the word was given to rise, fell to rise no more; for they instantly trod to death, or suffocated. When the body sat down, they were so closely wedged together that they were obliged to use many efforts, before they could put themselves in motion to get up again.

Before nine o'clock every man's thirst grew intolerable, and respiration difficult. Efforts were made again to open the door, but in vain. Many insults were used by the guard to provoke them to fire in upon us. For my part, I hitherto felt little pain or uneasiness, but was troubled from my anxiety for the sufferings of those who were with me. By keeping my face between two of the bars I obtained enough to give my lungs easy play, though my perspiration was excessive, and thirst commencing. At this period a strong and urinous volatile effluvia came from the prison. I was not able to turn my head that way, for more than a few seconds at a time.

Now every body, excepting those situated in and near the windows, began to grow outrageous, and many demanded *Water, water*, became the general cry. And the old man

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mautdaar before mentioned, taking pity on us, ordered the people to bring some skins of water. This was what I dreaded. I foresaw it would prove the ruin of the small chance left us, and essayed many times to speak to him privately to forbid its being brought: but the clamour was so loud, it became impossible. The water appeared. Words cannot paint to you the universal agitation and raving the sight of it threw us into. I flattered myself that some, by preserving an equal temper of mind, might out-live the night; but now the reflection, which gave me the greatest pain, was, that I saw no possibility of one escaping to tell the dismal tale.

Until the water came, I had myself not suffered much from thirst, which instantly grew excessive. We had no means of conveying it into the prison, but by hats forced through the bars; and thus myself and Messieurs Coles and Scott (notwithstanding the pains they suffered from their wounds) supplied them as fast as possible. But those who have experienced intense thirst, or are acquainted with the cause and nature of this appetite, will be sufficiently sensible it could receive no more than a momentary alleviation; the cause still subsisted. Though we brought full hats within the bars, there ensued such violent struggles, and frequent contests to get at it, that before it reached the lips of any one, there would be scarcely a small tea cup full left in them. These supplies, like sprinkling water on fire, only served to feed and raise the flame.

Oh! my dear Sir, how shall I give you a conception of what I felt at the cries and ravings of those in the remoter parts of the prison, who could not entertain a probable hope of obtaining a drop, yet could not divest themselves of expectation, however unavailing! and calling on me by the tender considerations of friendship and affection, and who knew they were really dear to me! Think, if possible, what my heart must have suffered at seeing and hearing their dis-

trels, without having it in my power to relieve the confusion now became general and horrid. Several of the other window (the only chance they had for force their way to the water, and the throng and pressure the window was beyond bearing; many forcing the passage from the further part of the room, pressed down in their way who had less strength, and trampled to death.

From about nine to near eleven, I sustained the same scene and painful situation, still supplying them with food, though my legs were almost broke with the weight of them. By this time I myself was near pressed to death, my two companions, with Mr William Parker (who forced himself into the window) were really so. . . .

For a great while they preserved a respect and reverence to me, more than indeed I could well expect, our circumstances considered: but now all distinction was lost. Mr Baillie, Messrs. Jenks, Revely, Law, Buchanan, and several others, for whom I had a real esteem and affection, had for some time been dead at my feet; and were trampled upon by every corporal or common soldier. By the help of more robust constitutions, had forced their way to the window, and held fast by the bars over me; at last I became so pressed and wedged up, I was deprived of all motion.

Determined now to give every thing up, I called to them and begged, as the last instance of their regard, they should remove the pressure upon me, and permit me to retreat from the window, to die in quiet. They gave way; and with much difficulty I forced a passage into the center of the prison, where the throng was less by the many dead, (I believe amounting to one third) and the numbers who were pressed to the windows; for by this time they had water from the other window.



In the black hole there is a platform \* corresponding with that in the barrack : I travelled over the dead, and repaired to the further end of it, just opposite to the other window. Here my poor friend Mr. Edward Eyre came staggering over the dead to me, and with his usual coolness and good-nature, asked me how I did ? but fell and expired before I had time to make him a reply. I laid myself down on some of the dead behind me, on the platform ; and, recommending myself to heaven, had the comfort of thinking my sufferings could have no long duration.

My thirst grew now insupportable, and the difficulty of breathing much increased ; and I had not remained in this situation, I believe, ten minutes, when I was seized with a pain in my breast, and palpitation of heart, both to the most exquisite degrees. These roused and obliged me to get up again ; but still the pain, palpitation, thirst, and difficulty of breathing increased. I retained my senses notwithstanding ; and had the grief to see death not so near me as I hoped ; but could no longer bear the pains I suffered without attempting a relief, which I knew fresh air would and could only give me. I instantly determined to push for the window opposite to me ; and by an effort of double the strength I had ever before possessed, gained the third rank at it, with one hand seized a bar, and by that means gained the second, though I think there were at least six or seven ranks between me and the window.

In a few moments the pain, palpitation, and difficulty of breathing ceased ; but my thirst continued intolerable. I called aloud for *Water for God's sake*. I had been concluded dead ; but as soon as they found me amongst them, they still

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\* This platform was raised between three and four feet from the floor, open underneath ; it extended the whole length of the east side of the prison, and was above six-feet wide.

had the respect and tenderness for me, to cry out, *Give me water, give him water!* nor would one of them at the least attempt to touch it until I had drank. But from drinking water I had no relief; my thirst was rather increased, so I determined to drink no more, but patiently waited the event; and kept my mouth moist from time to time by sucking the perspiration out of my shirt-sleeves, and catching the drops as they fell, like heavy rain, from my head and face. You can hardly imagine how unhappy I was if any of the guards escaped my mouth.

I came into the prison without coat or waistcoat; the prison was too hot to bear the former, and the latter too oppressive from the avarice of one of the guards, who robbed me of it. We were under the Veranda. Whilst I was at this window, I was observed by one of my miserable companions on the right of me, in the expedient of allaying my thirst by sucking my shirt-sleeve. He took the hint, and robbed me from time to time of a considerable part of my store; so that after I detected him, I had even the address to begin with my sleeve first, when I thought my reservoirs were sufficiently replenished; and our mouths and noses often met in contest. This plunderer I found afterwards was a young gentleman in the service.\* Mr Lushington, one of the few who escaped from death, and since paid me the compliment of assuring me, he believed he owed his life to many comfortable draughts he had from my sleeves. Before I hit upon this happy expedient, I had in an ungentle fit of thirst, attempted drinking my urine; but it was so intensely bitter, there was no enduring a second taste, and as no Bristol water could be more soft or pleasant than that which arose from perspiration.

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\* Sir Stephen Lushington now living in England, and one of the directors of the East India Company.

By half an hour past eleven, the much greater number of those living were in an outrageous delirium, and the others quite ungovernable; few retaining any calmness, but the ranks next the windows. They all now found, that water, instead of relieving, rather heightened their uneasinesses; and *Air, air*, was the general cry. Every insult that could be devised against the guard, all the opprobrious names and abuse that the suba, Monickhund, &c. could be loaded with, were repeated to provoke the guard to fire upon us, every man that could, rushing tumultuously towards the windows, with eager hopes of meeting the first shot. Then a general prayer to heaven to hasten the approach of the flames to the right and left of us, and put a period to our misery. But these failing, they whose strength and spirits were quite exhausted, laid themselves down and expired quietly upon their fellows: others who had yet some strength and vigour left, made a last effort for the windows, and several succeeded by leaping and scrambling over the backs and heads of those in the first ranks; and got hold of the bars, from which there was no removing them. Many to the right and left sunk with the violent pressure, and were soon suffocated; for now a steam arose from the living and the dead, which affected us in all its circumstances, as if we were forcibly held by our heads over a bowl of strong volatile spirit of hartshorn, until suffocated; nor could the effluvia of the one be distinguished from the other; and frequently, when I was forced by the load upon my head and shoulders, to hold my face down, I was obliged, near as I was to the window, instantly to raise it again, to escape suffocation.

I need not, my dear friend, ask your commiseration, when I tell you, that in this plight, from half an hour after eleven till near two in the morning, I sustained the weight of a heavy man, with his knees on my back, and the pressure of his

his whole body on my head ; a Dutch sergeant, who ken his seat upon my left shoulder, and a Topaz \* on my right : all which, nothing could have enabled long to support, but the props and pressure equallying me all around. The two latter I frequently dislodged, shifting my hold on the bars, and driving my knuckles through their ribs ; but my friend above stuck fast, and, as pressed by two bars, was immovable.

The repeated trials and efforts I made to dislodge this sufferable incumbrance upon me, at last quite exhausted, and towards two o'clock, finding I must quit the window or sink where I was, I resolved on the former, having considered truly for the sake of others, infinitely more for life, that the best of it is worth.

In the rank close behind me was an officer of one of the ships, whose name was Carey, and who behaved with great bravery during the siege, (his wife, a fine woman though very try born, would not quit him, but accompanied him to the prison, and was one who survived.) This poor man had been long raving for water and air ; I told him I was determined to give up life, and recommended him to do the same at my station. On my quitting, he made an attempt at my place ; but was supplanted,

Poor Carey expressed his thankfulness, and said, he would give up life too ; but it was with the utmost labour we got our way from the window (several in the inner ranks falling in going to me dead standing †.) He laid himself down, and his death, I believe, was very sudden, for he was a full, sanguine man : his strength was great, and I

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\* A black christian soldier ; usually termed subaltern of Portugal.

† Unable to fall by the throng and equal pressure

had he not retired with me, I should never have been able to have forced my way.

I was at this time sensible of no pain, and little uneasiness. I found a stupor coming on apace, and laid myself down by that gallant old man, the reverend Mr. Jervas Bellamy, who lay dead with his son the lieutenant, hand in hand, near the southernmost wall of the prison.

When I had lain there some little time, I still had reflection enough to suffer some uneasiness in the thought, that I should be trampled upon, when dead, as I myself had done to others. With some difficulty I raised myself and gained the platform a second time, where I presently lost all sensation: the last trace of sensibility that I have been able to recollect after my lying down, was, my sash being uneasy about my waist, which I untied and threw from me. Of what passed in this interval to the time of my resurrection from this hole of horrors, I can give you no account.

When the day broke, and the gentlemen found that no intreaties could prevail to get the door opened, it occurred to one of them (I think to Mr. Secretary Cooke) to make a search for me, in hopes I might have influence enough to gain a release from this scene of misery. Accordingly Messrs. Lushington and Walcot undertook the search, and by my shirt discovered me under the dead upon the platform. They took me from thence, and imagining I had some signs of life, brought me towards the window I had first possession of.

But as life was equally dear to every man (and the stench arising from the dead bodies was grown so intolerable) no one would give up his station in or near the window: so they were obliged to carry me back again. But soon after Captain Mills, (now captain of the company's yacht) who was in possession of a seat in the window, had the humanity to offer.

offer to resign it. I was again brought by the same men and placed in the window.

At this juncture the suba, who had received an account of the havoc death had made amongst us, sent one Jemmautdaars to enquire if the Chief survived. The suba told me to him; told I had appearance of life remaining. He believed I might recover if the door was opened very early. This answer being returned to the suba, an order came immediately for our release, it being then near six o'clock in the morning.

As the door opened inwards, and as the dead were piled up against it, and covered all the rest of the floor, it was impossible to open it by any efforts from without; it was therefore necessary that the dead should be removed. A few that were within, who were become so feeble, that they could not talk, tho' it was the condition of life, was not possible to do so without the utmost difficulty, and it was 20 minutes before the order came before the door could be opened.

About a quarter after six in the morning, the prisoners, the remains of 146 souls, being no more than three and twenty, came out of the Black-hole alive, but in a condition so weak, it made it very doubtful whether they would see the morning of the next day; among the living was Mrs. Carey, and poor Leech was among the dead. The bodies were drawn out of the hole by the soldiers, and thrown promiscuously into the ditch of an unfinished ravelin, which was afterwards filled with earth.

Mr. Holwell, Mr. Court, Mr. Walcot, and Mr. Bland were ordered into the custody of an officer; and the rest were immediately set at liberty, except poor Mrs. Carey, whose youth and beauty caused her to be detained for the pleasure of the conqueror, or some officer of state.

Mr. Holwell when he came out of the prison, was labouring with a high fever, and not able to stand; he was, however, sent to be examined by the viceroy, and was in this condition

carried to his presence. It was some time before he could speak, but as soon as he was able, he began to relate the sufferings and death of his unhappy companions. The viceroy without taking any notice of this tale of distress, stopt him short, by telling him, that he had been informed, there was treasure to a very considerable value secreted in the fort, and that if he did not discover it, he must expect no mercy. Mr. Holwell replied, he knew of no such treasure; and then began to remind him of his assurance the day before, that no hurt should come either to himself or his friends. To this remonstrance he paid no more regard than he had done to the complaint, but proceeded in his enquiry concerning the treasure; and when he found no intelligence could be got, he ordered the general of his household troops, whose name was Mhir Muddon, to take charge of Mr. Holwell as his prisoner.

Among the guard that marched before Mr. Holwell, when he went out from the presence of the viceroy, there was a man who carried a large Moratta battle-ax on his shoulder, which occasioned a report, first, that his head was to be struck off, and afterwards that the sentence was executed.

It happened unfortunately, that Mr. Holwell, in the hurry and confusion of the siege, after the fort had been deserted by Drake, forgot to set Omychund, the black merchant, whom Drake had injuriously imprisoned, at liberty. This neglect Omychund resented as an act of wilful injustice, and Mr. Holwell is of opinion, that if it had not been for Omychund's insinuations, he should have been discharged with the rest, notwithstanding the offence he had given to the viceroy by defending the fort; and the notion that prevailed of his being privy to the concealment of money; and in this opinion he says he is confirmed by the confinement of the three gentlemen, who were detained with him, who were all of them persons against whom Omychund was known to have conceived a particular resentment.

Mr. Holwell, and his associates in captivity, were conveyed in a kind of coach drawn by oxen, called a hackery, to the camp, where they were loaded with fetters, and lodged in the tent of a Moorish soldier, which being no more than 4 feet by 3 feet, they were obliged to lie, sick as they were, half in and half out the whole night, which happened to be very rainy; yet the next day their fever happily came to a crisis, and boils broke out on every part of their bodies, which, though they were extremely painful, were the certain prefaces of their recovery. The next day they were removed to the coast, and by order of General Mhir Muddon were soon after sent by sea to Maxadavad, the metropolis of Bengal, to wait the viceroy's return, and be disposed as he should farther determine.

At Maxadavad they arrived, after a voyage of 13 days, in a large boat, in which they had no better provision than rice and water, and no softer bed than some bamboos laid on the bottom timber of the vessel; they were, besides, exposed alternately to excessive heat and violent rains, without any covering but a bit of old mat and some scraps of facking. The boils that covered them were become running sores, and the irons on their legs had consumed the flesh almost to the bone.

When they arrived at Maxadavad, Mr. Holwell sent a letter to Mr. Law, the chief of the French factory, with an account of their distress, and Mr. Law, with great politeness and humanity, sent them not only cloaths, linen, provision and liquors in great plenty, but money.

About 4 o'clock on the 7th of July, they landed, and after marching a considerable way as a spectacle to the multitude that thronged round about them, they were deposited under an open shed, not far from the palace.

In this place they received every possible relief, not only from the great kindness of the French and Dutch chiefs, but from the Arabian merchants.

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On the 18th of July, the viceroy arrived, and the prisoners then learned that he had enquired for them, in order to set them at liberty before he left Calcutta, and was offended with Mhîr Muddon for having so hastily removed them to Maxadavad. He did not, however, order their immediate discharge when he arrived, which is natural to suppose he would have done, if they had been detained in custody contrary to his inclination.

On the 25th they were conducted to the palace, to have an audience, and to know their fate; but they could have no audience that day, which, as it happened, was a favourable circumstance, for at night the viceroy's grandmother solicited their liberty, at a feast, to which she was invited on his safe return, and the viceroy promised that he would release them on the morrow.

On the morrow, about five in the morning they were waked, and told that the viceroy would in a few minutes pass by to his palace of Mooteejeel. Upon this intelligence they got up, and when the viceroy came in sight, they paid him the usual homage, and uttered their benediction aloud. He looked at them with strong marks of compassion in his countenance, and ordering his litter to stop, he called them to him, and having heard a short extemporary petition, which was spoken by Mr. Holwell, he made no reply, but ordered two of his officers to see their irons instantly struck off, and conduct them safely wherever they chose to go, giving them a strict charge to see that they suffered no injury or insult by the way.

This act of mercy, however late, or from whatever motive, was the more meritorious, as great pains were taken by some time-serving sycophants to prevent it; they told the viceroy, that Mr. Holwell, notwithstanding his losses, was still possessed of enough to pay a considerable sum for his freedom; to which the viceroy nobly replied, "If he  
has

## 684 PERSONS SUFFOCATED IN THE BLACK HOLE PRISON.

has any thing left, let him keep it; his sufferings have been great, and he shall have his liberty."

Mr. Holwell and his friends being thus dismissed, immediately took boat, and soon after arrived safe at the Dutch settlement at Corcomadad, where he afterwards embarked for England.

*List of the unfortunate Persons smothered in the Black Hole Prison, exclusive of Sixty-nine, consisting of Dutch and English Sergeants, Corporals, Soldiers, Topaz's Militia, Whites and Portugeuze, whose names were unknown; making in the whole One Hundred and twenty-three persons.*

*Of Counsel.*—E. Eyre, W. Baillie, Esqrs. Rev. Jervis Bellamy.

*Gentlemen in the Service.*—Messrs. Jenks, Revely, Law, Coales, (Ens. Mil.) Valicourt, Jebb, Toriano, E. Page, S. Page, Grub, Street, Harod, P. Johnstone, Ballard, N. Drake, Carse, Knapton, Gosling, Bing, Dod, Dalrymple.

*Military Captains.*—Clayton, Buchanan, Witherington.

*Lieutenants.*—Bishop, Hays, Blagg, Simpson, Belamy.

*Ensigns.*—Paccard, Scot, Hastings, C. Wedderburn, Dumbleton, (Ens. Mil.)

*Sergeants, &c.* Sergeant Major, Quarter Master Sergeant.—Abraham, Cartwright, Bleau, Sergeants of Militia.

*Sea Captains.*—Hunt, Osburne, Purnell, (survived the night but died the next day;) Messrs. Carey, Stephenson, Grey, Porter, W. Parker, Caulker, Bendall, Atkinson, Leech, &c. &c.

*List of those who survived the Black Hole Prison.*

Messrs. Holwell, Court, Secretary Cooke, Lushington, Burdet, Ensign Walcot, Mrs. Carey, Capt. Mills, Capt. Dickson, Mr. Moran, John Meadows, and twelve military and Militia Blacks and Whites, some of whom recovered when the door was opened.

*The Singular Case of RENÉE CORBEAU, and a Young Nobleman of Normandy.*

[*Translated from Les Causes Celebres.*]

A YOUNG nobleman, born at Seéz, in Normandy, was a student of the law at Angers; he became enamoured of the charms of Renée Corbeau, the daughter of a citizen of that town. She suffered herself to be seduced by a promise of marriage, which he gave her in writing.

Her condescensions were soon followed by an effect so manifest to the eye as not to be concealed from her parents. Marriage seemed the only possible remedy to the misfortune. In order to get the better of the reluctance to this union, with which the great disparity of their ranks might inspire the young man, they had recourse to stratagem. The girl's father and mother persuaded her to give her lover a "*rendezvous*" one day when it was pretended they were gone into the country. The moment the parents were convinced he was alone and in private with her, they abruptly broke in upon him, and, with the most savage looks and gestures, threatened him with all the terrors of the law against rape and seduction. The youth was surprised into consent, and a lawyer in waiting in an adjoining chamber, produced a marriage contract in due form, which was immediately signed by all parties.

The next day, the young man, being recovered from his panic, to evade the fulfilment of his engagement, suddenly disappeared from Angers, and went home to his father, to whom he made a confession of all that had happened. The father, in order to prevent all possibility of the marriage ever being solemnized, persuaded his son to take priest's orders.

Renée Corbeau, indignant, and rendered furious at this deception, eagerly joined her father and mother in the prosecution

secution at law. An attachment was soon issued against the young man by one of the inferior courts, from which the cause was carried, by appeal, before the parliament of Paris.

After a solemn hearing of the most eminent advocates of their time, on both sides, the young man was condemned according to the jurisprudence of those days, to "be beheaded on a public scaffold, *unless* he married Renée Corbeau:" and, upon his representing, that, according to the ordinances of the Roman Catholic religion, his being a priest put it out of his power to avail himself of the choice which the High Court had extended to him, he was ordered for immediate execution.

Already he had mounted the scaffold, attended by the holy confessor appointed to assist him in his last moments, and was preparing himself for the fatal block, when Renée Corbeau felt all her love return. With her sex's fondness, she could not endure the thought of the ignominious death which her lover was about to suffer, only because she had too much loved him.

With the rapidity of lightning she darted through the throng, and made her way into the very chamber in which the high court was still sitting. She implored permission to be heard, and leave was granted her to speak.

She most humbly represented that, as to herself, it was manifest she had been deemed not so faulty as unfortunate, since death was to be the portion of him to whom she had abandoned herself; but that such a sentence, far from wiping away her disgrace, completed the measure of her shame, in snatching from her, for ever, the only person in the world in whose power it might be to restore to her her honour. Instead, therefore, of its being, as it was held out to be, her acquittal, it was in truth condemning her to a whole life of fruitless grief for a fault, which it was pretended had been  
remitted

remitted her; and those never-ceasing tears to which she was thus fated, were the more embittered by their flowing from two equally deplorable sources—an irreparable shame, and the loss of a man whom she had never ceased to love with the utmost ardour of affection.

She suggested to the members of that august assembly, what would be their own feelings—what must be the heart-readings that any one of them would undergo, did it happen that he saw dragged to an ignominious end the object of his love, and when that end too was the horrid work of his own passion?—"For," said she, "it was I who allured this unfortunate victim into the precipice; it was I who first loved him, before I had made any, the least, impression upon his heart: it was I seduced him; it was I, in short, who actually bartered to him, at the price of that fatal promise which constitutes his whole crime, favours which I never should have resisted the desire of offering him, had I not possessed a share of cunning sufficient to imperceptibly lead him on ardently to court of me that which I wished more passionately than he. Thus it is I, whom you pronounce innocent, who am doomed to groan under the whole weight of the punishment, from which death will deliver him, while I am to be smote with it every hour that I shall continue to drag on a miserable existence. At the very thought of it, (she said) I feel my heart die within me!"

She submitted, that the engagement to the church, contracted by this unhappy man, in entering, as he had done, into holy orders, was not a work of his own hands, but was in truth the act and deed of an imperious father, whose will he had been unable to resist. In this, therefore, he had not been a free agent; consequently the engagement could not be binding.

Besides, how was it possible to annul the judgment first pronounced?—By it a choice was given to the accused, either to marry or undergo the punishment of death; and now  
it

it seemed the high court was chusing for him. It was true he had declared that his priesthood did not allow him to avail himself of the choice, which had been extended to him; but that declaration by no means amounted to a refusal to solemnize the marriage; it merely went to say, that he could not marry, but that "he would if he could."

In order, therefore, that he might make use of the choice given him, it became necessary to enable him to contract matrimony; and to this end, a dispensation from the holy see, for which there were a thousand precedents, was sufficient; that it would be easily obtained, provided it pleased the high court to take an interest in his behalf; and that, at any rate, she was not without hope, that her misfortunes and her tears might obtain it through the Pope's Legate, who was then daily expected in France.

Therefore, she most humbly prayed an arrest of the execution of the *last* judgment, and that time might be granted her to obtain from Rome the dispensation necessary to the enabling her lover to fulfil the *first*. "In this way, (said she,) you will unite mercy to justice."

This speech, adorned by the flowers of a natural eloquence but inspired by the powers and energies of love and grief, and sustained by beauty and the graces, had all the wished for success.

It was ordered that the execution of the last judgment should be suspended for the space of six months, during which time, the accused might make the proper applications.

The Cardinal of Medicis, who, in process of time was elected Pope, by the name of Leo XI. and who died in one month after his elevation, arrived in France much about that period, in quality of legate. But, so indignant was that prelate at the treachery of the young nobleman, in his having made the ordinances of the church subservient to the  
perfidious

perfidious plan of eluding a marriage, to the celebration of which he was imperiously called by every tie of conscience, and all the laws of honour; that he was deaf to all solicitations. Neither the true repentance of the sinner, nor the, as real, tears of this beautiful and virtuous woman—nothing could move that diplomatic *purpled priest*.

At that time the throne of France was filled by HENRY IV. Every one knows how affable and easy of access to all his subjects was that great and philanthropic king—The peasantry were used to teach their children to call him

“ *Notre bon Roi Henri.* ”

Renée Corbeau threw herself at his feet: he immediately read the petition, which was an artless tale of woe, love, and honour. The king was moved:—HENRY, who had himself been early schooled in wholesome adversity—the brave, the gentle, the gallant Henry! instantly seized the picture of the fair *Gabrielle D’Etries*, which hung in his bosom, and eagerly embracing it, he vowed by her adored image, and swore by the *white plume* he wore, which, in the field of glory had so often led on his troops to victory, that “ so much worth and beauty should not go unrewarded.” With all convenient speed the required dispensation was procured from the Court of Rome, and then the marriage was immediately solemnized.

These lovers smoothly passed the remainder of their days in the utmost harmony and content; and down to his latest hour, the husband bore the impression upon his heart (and which, an hundred times a day, was manifested in acts of kindness to his fair partner) that for his own life, and the salvation of the honour of his family, he stood indebted to his wife’s love.

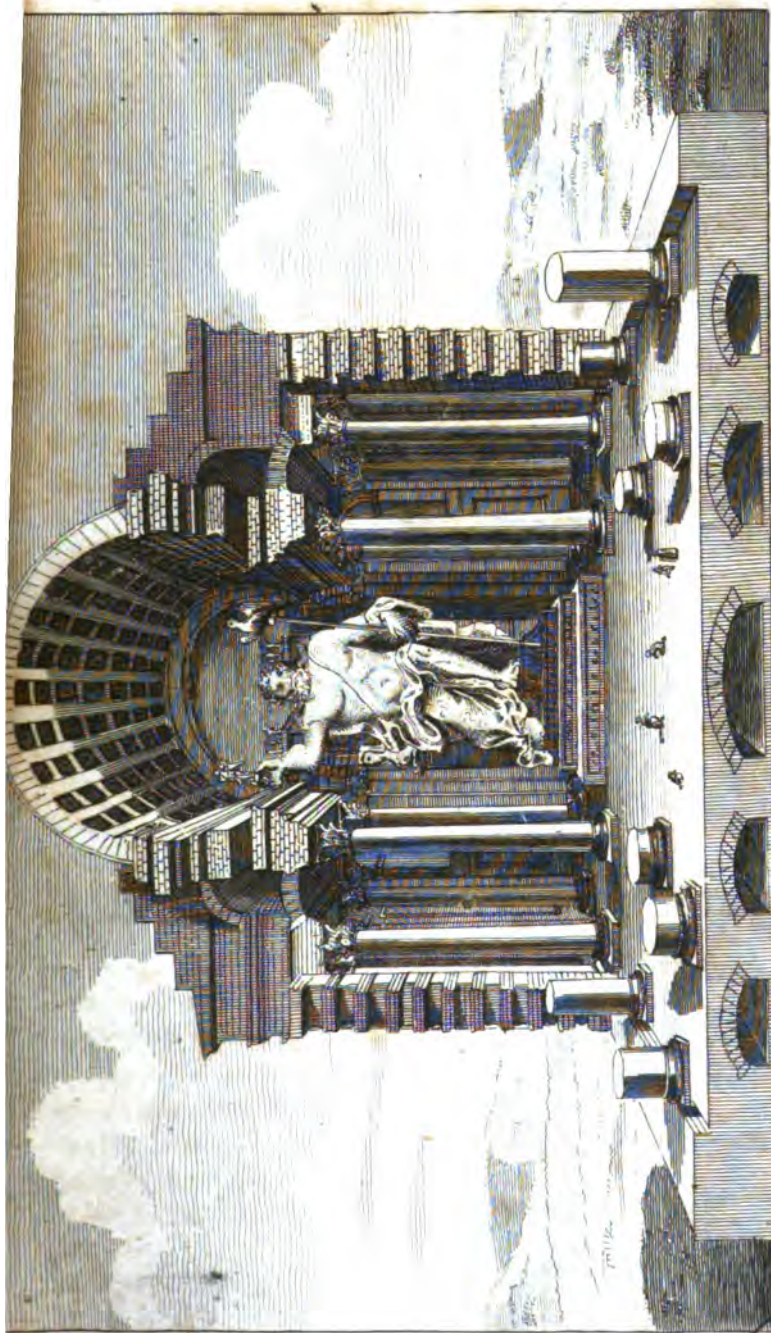
*An Account of the Gigantic Statue, or COLOSSUS of JUPITER OLYMPUS, being one of the greatest Wonders of the World.*

**T**HIS statue was made by the famous sculptor Phidias; it was composed of ivory, gold, and precious stones, sitting upon a throne equally marvellous. The height was above sixty ells.—It was placed at the furthest end of the temple of the same Jupiter, at Elis or Olympia, a city situate between Arcadia and Achaia in antient Greece. It was of such accomplished art that the Olympian games (the ancient exercises of Hercules, revived by Iphitus, and celebrated every four years) did not render this country more famous than the extraordinary perfection of this work. In reality, this Jupiter gave such sanction to that whole country, that no one could wage war against it without being accounted sacrilegious among the Heathens. Phidias himself had the honour to see, that for his sake, and not to profane the art of sculpture, no slave was admitted apprentice to it. Every step was adorned with divers rows of statues, and some writers alledge that there was not room enough in the vaulted part of the temple for this Jupiter to stand upright.

*Authentic Memoirs of JOHN HATFIELD, the extraordinary Impostor, Seducer, &c. known by the Appellation of the KESWICK IMPOSTOR, including his Execution, and an Account of MARY ROBINSON, the remarkable BEAUTY OF BUTTERMERE, and dupe of his consummate Artifice.*

**J**OHAN HATFIELD may truly be accounted the most extraordinary man that has appeared in this wonderful age; he has not convulsed nations nor led armies to conquests, but in his line may well be considered a Robespierre or a Bonaparte. He was born in the year 1759 at Mortram in Longdale, Cheshire, of low descent, but possessing much natural abilities;





*The GIGANTICK STATUE, or COLOSSUS of JUPITER OLYMPUS, seated on the Throne of the Temple, dedicated to that Deity at Olympia a City of ancient Greece.*





JOHN HATFIELD.

*The Famous Seducer &c &c*

(Aged 15)

*Pub<sup>d</sup> as the act dir<sup>d</sup> by R. S. Kirby 13 Pall-mall Row & T. Scott, 5<sup>th</sup> Martin's Court Jan<sup>r</sup> 5 1803*





abilities; after some domestic depredations he quitted his family, and was employed in the capacity of a Rider to a linen-draper in the North of England. In the course of this service he became acquainted with a young woman, who was nursed and resided at a farmer's house in the neighbourhood of his employer. She had been in her earlier life, taught to consider the people with whom she lived as her parents. Remote from the gaieties and follies of what is so idly denominated polished life, she was unacquainted with the allurements of fashion, and considered her domestic duties as the only object of her consideration. When this deserving girl had arrived at a certain age, the honest farmer explained to her the secret of her birth; he told her that, notwithstanding she had always considered him as her parent, he was in fact only her poor guardian, and that she was the natural daughter of Lord Robert Manners, who intended to give her one thousand pounds, provided she married with his approbation.

This discovery soon reached the ears of Hatfield: he immediately paid his respects at the farmer's, and having represented himself as a young man of considerable expectations in the wholesale linen business, his visits were not discountenanced. The farmer, however, thought it incumbent on him to acquaint his Lordship with a proposal made to him by Hatfield; that he would marry the young woman if her relations were satisfied with their union, *but on no other terms*. This had so much the appearance of an honourable and prudent intention, that his Lordship on being made acquainted with the circumstances, desired to see the lover. He accordingly paid his respects to the noble and unsuspecting parent, who, conceiving the young man to be what he represented himself, gave his consent at the first interview, and, the day after the marriage took place, presented the bridegroom with a draft on his banker for 1500*l*. This transaction took place about the year 1771 or 1772.

Shortly after the receipt of his Lordship's bounty, Hatfield set off for London; hired a small phaeton, was perpetually at the coffee-houses in Covent Garden; described himself to whatever company he chanced to meet, as a relation of the Rutland family; would frequently purchase a haunch of venison; invite his coffee-house acquaintances to dine with him; and entertain them with a flowing description of his Park in Yorkshire, and the flavour of the venison it produced, a specimen of which he had given them. These idle and romantic tales passed current for a few weeks when some of his new acquaintances began to find him out, and frequently jeered him on his being an adept in what they styled "*poetical prose*, or the *beauties of imagination*." Hatfield, however, was insensible to all these rebukes, and continued to retail his preposterous fabrications with such an air of confidence, that he became generally known throughout Covent Garden, by the name of *Lying Hatfield*.

The marriage portion being nearly exhausted, he retreated from London, and was scarcely heard of until about the year 1782, when he again visited the metropolis, and was shortly afterwards arrested, and committed to the King's Bench prison for a debt, amounting to the sum of 16*l*. Several unfortunate Gentlemen, then confined in the same place, had been of his parties when he flourished in Covent Garden, and perceiving him in great poverty, frequently invited him to dinner, yet, such was the unaccountable disposition of this man, that notwithstanding he knew there were people present who were thoroughly acquainted with his character, still he would continue to describe his Yorkshire Park, his estate in Rutlandshire, settled upon his wife, and generally wind up the whole with observing how vexatious it was to be confined at the suit of a *pauntry tradesman* for so insignificant a sum, at the very moment when he had thirty men employed in *cutting a piece of water* near the family mansion in Yorkshire.



At the time Hatfield became a prisoner in the King's Bench, the late unfortunate Valentine Morris, formerly Governor of the Island of St. Vincent, was confined in the same place. This gentleman was frequently visited by a Clergyman of the most benevolent and humane disposition. Hatfield soon directed his attention to this good man, and one day earnestly invited him to attend him to his chamber. After some preliminary apologies, he implored the worthy pastor never to disclose what he was going to communicate. The Divine assured him, the whole should remain in his bosom. "Then," said Hatfield, "you see before you a man nearly allied to the house of Rutland, and possessed of estates (here followed the old story of the Yorkshire Park, the Rutlandshire property, &c. &c.); yet, notwithstanding all this wealth (continued he), I am detained in this wretched place, for the insignificant sum of 160*l*. But the truth is, Sir, I would not have my situation known to any man in the world but my worthy relative his Grace of Rutland. (The father of the present Duke was then living)—Indeed, I would rather remain a captive for ever. But, Sir, if you would have the goodness to pay your respects to this worthy Nobleman, and frankly describe how matters are, he will at once send me the money by you, and this mighty business will not only be instantly settled, but I shall have the satisfaction of introducing you to a connection which may be attended with happy consequences."

The honest clergyman readily undertook the commission; paid his respects to the Duke, and pathetically described the unfortunate situation of his amiable relative. His Grace of Rutland not recollecting at the moment such a name as Hatfield, expressed his astonishment at the application. This reduced the worthy Divine to a very awkward situation, and he faltered in his speech when he began making an apology, which the Duke perceiving he very kindly observed, that he believed the whole was some idle tale of an impostor,

for

for that he never knew any person of the name mentioned, although he had some faint recollection of hearing Lord Robert, his relation, say that he had married a natural daughter of his to a tradesman in the north of England, and whose name he believed was Hatfield.

The Reverend Missionary was so confounded that he immediately retired and proceeded to the prison, where he gave the unhappy gentleman, in the presence of Mr. Morris, a most severe lecture. But the appearance of this venerable man as his friend, had the effect which Hatfield expected; for the Duke sent to inquire if he were the man that married the natural daughter of Lord Robert Manners, and being satisfied as to the fact, dispatched a messenger with 200*l.* and had him released.

In the year 1784 or 85, his Grace of Rutland was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and, shortly after his arrival in Dublin, Hatfield made his appearance in that city. He immediately on his landing, engaged a suite of apartments at a Hotel in College green, and represented himself as nearly allied to the Viceroy, but that he could not appear at the Castle until his horses, servants, and carriages, were arrived, which he ordered, before his leaving England, to be shipped at Liverpool. The easy and familiar manner in which he addressed the Master of the Hotel, perfectly satisfied him that he had a man of consequence in his house, and matters were arranged accordingly. This being adjusted Hatfield soon found his way to Lucas's Coffee-house, a place which people of a certain rank generally frequent, and, it being a new scene, the Yorkshire Park, the Rutlandshire estate, and the connections with the Rutland family, stood their ground very well for about a month.

At the expiration of this time, the bill at the Hotel amounted to sixty pounds and upwards. The landlord became importunate, and after expressing his astonishment at the non-arrival of Mr. Hatfield's domestics, &c. requested he might



might be permitted to send in his bill. This did not in the least confuse Hatfield; he immediately told the Master of the Hotel, that very fortunately his agent, who received the rents of his Estates in the North of England, was then in Ireland, and held a public employment; he lamented that his agent was not then in Dublin; but he had the pleasure to know his stay in the country would not exceed three days. This satisfied the landlord, and, at the expiration of the three days, he called upon the Gentleman, whose name Hatfield had given him, and presented the account. Here followed another scene of confusion and surprise. The supposed agent of the Yorkshire Estate very frankly told the man who delivered the bill, that he had no other knowledge of the person who sent him than what common report furnished him with, that his general character in London was that of a romantic simpleton, whose plausibilities had imposed on several people, and plunged himself into repeated difficulties.

The landlord retired highly thankful for the information, and immediately arrested his guest, who was lodged in the prison of the Marshalsea. Hatfield had scarcely seated himself in his new lodgings, when he visited the jailor's wife in her apartment, and, in a whisper, requested of her not to tell any person that she had in her custody a near relation of the then Viceroy. The woman, astonished at the discovery, immediately shewed him into the best apartment in the prison, had a table provided, and she, her husband, and Hatfield constantly dined together for nearly three weeks, in the utmost harmony and good humour.

During this time he had petitioned the Duke for another supply, who, apprehensive that the fellow might continue his impositions in Dublin, released him, on condition of his immediately quitting Ireland; and his Grace sent a servant, who conducted him on board the packet that sailed the next tide for Holyhead.

A few years after his arrival on this side the water, he was arrested for a debt contracted in the North of England, and remained in prison for eight years, when he was liberated by a lady, who also gave him her hand in marriage.

Some time after he was liberated, he had the good fortune to connect himself with some respectable tradesmen in Devonshire, where he might have lived happily, secluded from those who formerly knew him, and acquired an honest independence; but deception was so rooted in his nature that he could never shake it off. He was soon detected in fraudulent practices, and, in order to bring his villanies to light declared a bankrupt, leaving behind his wife, late Miss Nation, and two infant children, at Tiverton; he visited other places, and at length, in July 1802, arrived at the Queen's Head, in Keswick, in a carriage, but without any servant, where he assumed the name of the *Honorable Alexander Augustus Hope*, brother of the Earl of Hopetown, and member for Linlithgow. Unfortunately some evil genius directed his steps to the once happy cottage of poor Mary, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, an old couple, who kept a small public-house at the side of the beautiful lake of Buttermere, Cumberland, and by industry gained a little property. She was the only daughter, and probably her name had never been known to the public, but for the account given of her by the author of "A fortnight's ramble to the lakes in Westmoreland, Lancashire, and Cumberland." He now became acquainted with an Irish gentleman and member of the then Irish parliament, who had been resident with his family some months at Keswick. With this gentleman, and under his immediate protection, there was likewise a young lady of family and fortune, and of great personal attraction. One of the means which Hatfield used to introduce himself to this respectable family was the following:—Understanding that the gentleman had been a military man, he took an army list from his pocket and pointed

ed to his assumed name, the Honourable Alexander Augustus Hope, Lieutenant Colonel of the 14th regiment of foot. This new acquaintance daily gained strength, and he shortly paid his addresses to the daughter of the above gentleman, and obtained her consent. The wedding clothes were bought; but, previously to the wedding-day being fixed, she insisted that the pretended Colonel Hope should introduce the subject formally to her friends. He now pretended to write letters, and while waiting for the answers proposed to employ that time in a trip to Lord Hopetoun's seat, &c.

From this time he played a double game: his visits to Keswick became frequent, and his suit to the young lady assiduous and fervent. Still however, both at Keswick and Buttermere, he was somewhat shy of appearing in public. He was sure to be engaged in a fishing expedition on the day on which any company was expected at the public-house at Buttermere; and he never attended the church at Keswick but once.

Finding his schemes baffled to obtain this young lady and her fortune, he now applied himself wholly to gain possession of Mary Robinson. He made the most minute enquiries among the neighbours into every circumstance relating to her and her family, and at length the pretended Colonel Hope, in company with the clergyman, procured a license on the 1st of October, and they were publicly married in the church of Lorton, on Saturday, October the 2d.

On the day previous to his marriage, he wrote to Mr. —, informing him, that he was under the necessity of being absent for ten days on a journey into Scotland, and sent him a draft for thirty pounds, drawn on Mr. Crump, of Liverpool, desiring him to cash it and pay some small debts in Keswick with it, and send him over the balance, as he feared he might be short of cash on the road; this Mr. —, immediately did, and sent him ten guineas in

addition to the balance. On the Saturday, Wood, the landlord of the Queen's Head, returned from Lorton with the public intelligence, that Colonel Hope had married the *Beauty of Buttermere*. As it was clear, whoever he was, that he had acted unworthily and dishonourably, Mr. ——'s suspicions were of course awakened. He instantly remitted the draft to Mr. Crump, who immediately accepted it; Mr. M——, the friend of the young lady whom he first paid his addresses to, wrote to the Earl of Hopetoun. Before the answer arrived, the pretended Honourable returned with his wife to Buttermere. He went only as far as Longtown, where he received two letters, seemed much troubled that some friends whom he expected had not arrived there, stayed three days, and then told his wife that he would again go back to Buttermere. From this time she was seized with fears and suspicions. They returned, however, and their return was made known at Kewick. A Mr. Harding, a Welsh judge, and a very singular man, passing through Kewick heard of this Impostor, and sent his servant over to Buttermere with a note to the supposed Colonel Hope, who observed, "that it was a mistake, and that the note was for a brother of his." However, he sent for four horses, and came over to Kewick, drew another draft on Mr. Crump for 20*l.* which the landlord at the Queen's Head had the courage to cash. Of this sum he immediately sent the ten guineas to Mr. ——, who came and introduced him to the judge, as his old friend Colonel Hope. But he made a blank denial that he had ever assumed the name. He had said his name was Hope, but not that he was the *honourable member for Linlithgow*, &c. &c. and one who had been his frequent companion, his intimate at Buttermere, gave evidence to the same purpose.

In spite however of his impudent assertions, and those of his associate, the evidence against him was decisive. A warrant was given by Sir Frederic Vane on the clear proof  
of

of his having forged and received several franks as the member for Linlithgow, and he was committed to the care of a constable. Having however found means to escape, he took refuge for a few days on board a sloop off Ravinglafs, and then went in the coach to Ulverstone, and was afterwards seen at the Hotel in Chester. In the mean time the following advertisement, setting forth his person and manners, was in the public prints.

*“ Notorious Impostor, Swindler, and Felon! —*

John Hatfield, who lately married a young woman, commonly called the Beauty of Buttermere, under an assumed name: height about five feet ten inches; aged about forty-four; full face, bright eyes, thick eyebrows, strong but light beard, good complexion, with some colour; thick, but not very prominent nose, smiling countenance, fine teeth, a scar on one of his cheeks near the chin, very long thick light hair, and a great deal of it grey, done up in a club; stiff square shouldered, full breast and chest, rather corpulent, and strong limbed, but very active: and has rather a spring in his gait, with apparently a little hitch in bringing up one leg; the two middle fingers of his left hand are stiff from an old wound: he has something of the Irish brogue in his speech; fluent and elegant in his language, great command of words, frequently puts his hand to his heart; very fond of compliments, and generally addressing himself to persons most distinguished by rank or situation, attentive in the extreme to females, and likely to insinuate himself where there are young ladies. He was in America during the war, is fond of talking of his wounds and exploits there, and of military subjects, as well as of Hatfield Hall, and his estates in Derbyshire and Cheshire; of the antiquity of his family, whom he pretends to trace to the Plantagenets. He makes a boast of having often been engaged in duels; he has been a great traveller also, by his own account,

and talks of Egypt, Turkey, and Italy: and, in short, has a general knowledge of subjects, which, together with his engaging manners, is well calculated to impose on the credulous. He had art enough to connect himself with some very respectable merchants in Devonshire, as a partner in business, but having swindled them out of large sums, he was made a separate bankrupt in June, 1802. He cloaks his deceptions under the mask of religion, appears fond of religious conversation, and makes a point of attending divine service and popular preachers."

Though he was personally known at Cheshire to many of the inhabitants, yet this specious hypocrite had so artfully disguised himself, that he quitted the town without any suspicion, before the Bow-street officers reached that place in quest of him. He was then traced to Brielth in Brecknockshire, and was at length apprehended about 16 miles from Swansea and committed to Brecon jail. He had a cravat on, with his initial, J. H. which he attempted to account for by calling himself John Henry.

Before the magistrates he declared himself to be Tudor Henry; and in order to prepossess the honest Cambrians in his favour, boasted that he was descended from an ancient family in Wales, for the inhabitants of which country he had ever entertained a sincere regard. He was however conveyed up to town by one of the Bow-Street officers, where he was examined on his arrival before the magistrates. The solicitor for his bankruptcy attended to identify his person, and stated, that the commission of bankruptcy was issued against Hatfield in June, 1802; that he attended the last meeting of the commissioners, but the prisoner did not appear, although due notice of the bankruptcy had been given in the Gazette, and he himself had given a personal notice to the prisoner's wife, at Wakefield, near Tiverton, Devon.—Mr. Parkyn, the solicitor to the post-office, produced a warrant from Sir Fletcher Vane, Bart. a magistrate for the

the county of Cumberland, against the prisoner, by the name of the Hon. Alex. Augustus Hope, charging him with felony, by pretending to be a member of parliament of the United Kingdom, and franking several letters by the name of A. Hope, to several persons, which were put into the post-office at Keswick, in Cumberland, in order to evade the duties of postage. Another charge for forgery, and the charge of bigamy were explained to him, but not entered into, as he was committed for trial for these charges at the next assizes at Carlisle.—He conducted himself with the greatest propriety during his journey to town, and on his examination; but said nothing more than answering a few questions put to him by Sir Richard Ford and the solicitors.—He was then dressed in a black coat and waistcoat, fustian breeches and boots; and wore his hair tied behind without powder. His appearance was respectable, though quite in dishabille. The Duke of Cumberland and several other gentlemen were present at his examination; in the course of which the following letter was produced.

*Keswick, October the first, 1802.*

*John Crump, Esq. Liverpool.*

*Free, A. Hope.*

Buttermere, Oct. 1, 1802.

“ DEAR SIR,

“ I have this day received Mr. Kirkman’s kind letter from Manchester, promising me the happiness of seeing you both in about ten days, which will indeed give me great pleasure; and you can, too, be of very valuable service to me at this place, particulars of which, when we meet, tho’ I shall probably write to you again in a few days—the chief purpose for which I write this is to desire you will be so good as to accept a bill for me, dated Buttermere, the 1st of October, at ten days, and I will either give you cash for it

it here, or remit it to you in time, which ever way you please to say. It is drawn in favour of Nathaniel Montgomery More, Esq. Be pleased to present my best respects to your lady; and say I hope, ere the winter elapses, to pay her my personal respects; for, if you will manage so as to pass a little time with me in Scotland, I will promise to make Liverpool in my way to London.

“ With the truest esteem,

“ I am, dear Sir,

“ Yours ever,

“ A. HOPE.”

This letter, it was proved, passed free of the postage. Another letter was also produced from his wife at Tiverton, and a certificate of his marriage with Mary of Buttermere. His trial came on August 15, 1803, at the Assizes for Cumberland, before the Honourable Alexander Thompson, Knt. He stood charged upon the three following indictments:—1. With having assumed the name and title of the Honourable Alexander Augustus Hope, and pretending to be a Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and with having, about the month of October last, under such false and fictitious name and character, drawn a draft or bill of exchange, in the name of Alexander Hope, upon John Crump, Esq. for the sum of 20l. payable to George Wood of Keswick, Cumberland, inn-keeper, or order, at the end of fourteen days from the date of the said draft or bill of exchange.—2. With making, uttering, and publishing as true, a certain false, forged, and counterfeit bill of exchange, with the name of Alexander Augustus Hope thereunto falsely set and subscribed, drawn upon John Crump, Esq. dated the first day of October 1802, and payable to Nathaniel Montgomery Moore, or order, ten days after date for 30l. sterling.—3. With having assumed the name of Alexander Hope, and pretending



pretending to be a member of Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the brother of the Right Hon. Lord Hopetoun, and a Colonel in the army; and under such false and fictitious name and character, at various times in the month of October, 1802, having forged and counterfeited the hand writing of the said Alexander Hope, in the superscription of certain letters or packets, in order to avoid the payment of the duty of postage.

During the evidence for the prosecution, the circumstances already mentioned were clearly proved, after which the judge with a great deal of perspicuity and force, summed up the whole of the evidence, and commented upon such parts as peculiarly affected the fate of the prisoner. "Nothing could be more clearly proved than that the prisoner did make the bill or bills in question under the assumed name of Alexander Augustus Hope, with an intention to defraud. That the prisoner used the additional name of Augustus is of no consequence in this question. The evidence proves clearly that the prisoner meant to represent himself to be another character, and under that assumed character he drew the bill in question. If any thing should appear in mitigation of the offences with which the prisoner stands charged, they must give them a full consideration; and though his character had been long shaded with obloquy, yet they must not let this in the least influence the verdict they were sworn to give."

The jury consulted about ten minutes, and then returned a verdict of—*Guilty of Forgery.*

The trial commenced about eleven o'clock in the forenoon and ended about seven in the evening, during the whole of which time the court was excessively crowded. Never perhaps in Carlisle did there a cause come before a court of justice which claimed such a general interest. The prisoner's behaviour in court was proper and dignified, and he supported his situation from first to last with unshaken fortitude.

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He employed himself during the greatest part of his trial in writing notes on the evidence given, and in conversing with his counsel, Messrs. Topping and Holroyd.—After the verdict of the Jury was given, he discovered no relaxation of his accustomed demeanour; but after the court adjourned, he retired from the bar, and was ordered to attend the next morning to receive the sentence of the law. The crowd was immense, and he was allowed a post-chaise from the Town-hall to the gaol.

At eight o'clock the next morning, the court met again, when John Hatfield, the prisoner, appeared at the bar to receive his sentence. Numbers of people gathered together to witness this painful duty of the law passed upon one whose appearance, manners, and actions, have excited a most uncommon degree of interest. After proceeding in the usual form, the Judge addressed the prisoner in the following impressive terms:

“JOHN HATFIELD, after the long and serious investigation of the charges which have been preferred against you, you have been found guilty by a Jury of your country. You have been distinguished for crimes of such magnitude as have seldom, if ever, received any mitigation of capital punishment, and in your case it is impossible it can be limited.—Assuming the person, name, and character of a worthy and respectable officer, of a noble family in this country, you have perpetrated and committed the most enormous crimes. The long imprisonment you have undergone has afforded time for your serious reflection, and an opportunity of your being deeply impressed with a sense of the enormity of your crimes, and the justice of that sentence which must be inflicted upon you, and I wish you to be seriously impressed with the awfulness of your situation. I conjure you to reflect with anxious care and deep concern on your approaching end, concerning which much  
remains

remains to be done. Lay aside now your delusions and imposition, and employ properly the short space you have to live. I beseech you to employ the remaining part of your time in preparing for eternity, so that you may find mercy at the hour of death and in the day of judgment. Hear now the sentence of the law:—*That you be carried from hence to the place from whence you came, and from thence to the place of execution, and there to be hanged by the neck till you are dead,—and may the Lord have mercy on your soul!*

A notion very generally prevailed that he would not be brought to justice, and the arrival of the mail was daily expected with the greatest impatience. No pardon arriving, September 3, 1803, (Saturday) was at last fixed upon for the execution. The gallows was erected the preceding night between twelve and three, in an island formed by the river Eden on the north side of the town, between the two bridges. From the hour when the Jury found him guilty, he has behaved with the utmost serenity and cheerfulness. He received the visits of all who wished to see him, and talked upon the topics of the day with the greatest interest or indifference. He could scarcely ever be brought to speak of his own case. He neither blamed the verdict, nor made any confession of his guilt. He said that he had no intention to defraud those whose names he forged; but was never heard to say that he was to die unjustly.

The alarming nature of the crime of forgery in a commercial country, had taught him from the beginning to entertain no hope of mercy. By eleven in the morning of September 3, he was in the chapel of the gaol with the chaplain. He continued performing his devotions for several hours. He had determined to have all this business over before he arrived at the scaffold, that he might remain as short a time as possible under the gaze of a mob.

The post coming in a little before three, and bringing neither pardon nor reprieve, the under sheriff and a de-

tachment of the Cumberland Yeomanry immediately repaired to the prison near the English gate. A prodigious crowd had previously assembled. This was the market-day, and people had come from the distance of many miles out of mere curiosity. A post chaise was brought for him from the Bush Inn. Having taken farewell of the clergyman, who attended him to the door, he mounted the steps with much steadiness and composure. The Goaler and the Executioner went in along with him. The latter had been brought from Dumfries upon a retaining fee of 10 guineas.

It was exactly four o'clock when the procession moved from the goal. Passing through the Scotch gate, in about twelve minutes it arrived at the Sands. Half the Yeomanry went before the carriage, and the other behind. Upon arriving on the ground, they formed a ring round the scaffold. It is said that he wished to have had the blinds drawn up, but that such an indulgence was held inconsistent with the interests of public justice.

As soon as the carriage door had been opened by the Under Sheriff, the culprit alighted with his two companions. A small dung cart, boarded over, had been placed under the gibbet. A ladder was placed to this stage, which he instantly ascended. He was dressed in a black jacket, black silk waistcoat, fustian pantaloons, white cotton stockings, and ordinary shoes. He wore no powder in his hair. He was perfectly cool and collected. At the same time his conduct displayed nothing of levity, of insensibility, or of hardihood. He was more anxious to give proof of resignation than of heroism.—His countenance was extremely pale, but his hand never trembled.

He immediately untied his neck handkerchief, and placed a bandage over his eyes. The executioner was extremely awkward, and Hatfield found it necessary to give various directions

directions as to the placing of the rope, &c. He several times put on a languid and piteous smile. He at last seemed rather exhausted and faint. Having been near three weeks under sentence of death, he must have suffered much notwithstanding his external bearing, and a reflection of the misery he had occasioned must have given him many an agonizing throb.

Having taken leave of the gaoler and the sheriff, he prepared himself for his fate. He was at this time heard to exclaim, "My spirit is strong, though my body is weak."

Great apprehensions were entertained that it would be necessary to tie him up a second time. The noose slipped twice, and he fell down above 18 inches. His feet at last were almost touching the ground. But his excessive weight, which occasioned this accident, speedily relieved him from pain. He expired in a moment, and without any struggle. The ceremony of his hands being tied behind his back was satisfied by a piece of white tape passed loosely from the one to the other. But he never made the smallest effort to relieve himself.

He was cut down after he had hung about an hour. On the preceding Wednesday, he had made a carpenter take his measure for a coffin. He gave particular directions that it should be large, as he meant to be laid in it with all his cloaths on. It was made of oak, adorned with plates, and extremely handsome every way. A hearse followed with it to the ground, and afterwards bore him away. It was understood that the body was to be buried in the parish of Burgh, about ten miles west from this city. It seems he had a great terror of his body being taken up, and though he was told that it would be safer for him to be buried in the city, yet he has preferred Burgh, a place extremely sequestered. He is said to have been acquainted with the parson. It has however been asserted, that the

conscientious parishioners of Burgh objected to his being laid there, and that he was consequently interred in St. Mary's Church-yard, the usual place for those who come to an untimely end. Notwithstanding his various and complicated enormities, his untimely end excited considerable commiseration in this place. His manners were extremely polished and insinuating, and he was possessed of qualities which might have rendered him an ornament to society.

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The following are copies of two of the letters addressed to the Reverend Mr. Nicholson:

*Longtown, Monday Evening, 4th Oct. 1802.*

" VERY DEAR AND REVEREND SIR,

WE arrived here on Saturday evening, about eight; went to the church on Sunday, and Mr. Graham, the brother of Sir James, gave us one of the finest lectures I ever heard. We attended his evening discourse, at the end of which he addressed me, begging I would not return to my quarters without a light, and his footman stood ready with one. All this hurried my dear Mary a little; but nothing can be more pleasing than the manner she at all times possesses.—Tomorrow evening we may perhaps proceed further; but Mrs. Hope likes the quietude of this place much, and her wishes are my laws.—In the church-yard we found the following inscription, which I copied on purpose to send you, thinking it may amuse some of our friends; pray read it to Dr. Head, and present him my best respects.

Our life is but a winter's day,  
 Some only breakfast, and away;  
 Others to dinner stay, and are full fed,  
 The oldest man but sups, and goes to bed;  
 Large is his debt who lingers out the day—  
 Who goes the soonest has the least to pay.

" Be

“ Be pleased to say for us both whatever you think will be acceptable to those who, from kind motives, may inquire after us ; and at Buttermere, Mary desires you will tender to father and mother the most affectionate duty, and the most lively assurances of our mutual happiness.—I find happiness is not very loquative, so this will be a short letter ; let us have a long one as soon as possible, addressed for Colonel Hope, M. P. Post-office, Longtown, Cumberland ; and you will greatly oblige,

Very dear and Reverend Sir,

Yours most truly,

A. HOPE.”

*Sunday Night, Oct. 10, 1802.*

“ VERY DEAR AND REVEREND SIR,

ANXIOUS that my dear Mary might hear from her parents as soon as possible, we returned from Scotland to this town on Friday evening, and shall most probably proceed for Carlisle tomorrow. Indeed your letter, received this afternoon, makes me very desirous of returning to Buttermere, that I may properly answer all such persons as assume the privilege of censuring my conduct, and are mean enough to disturb the peace of our parents.

We are, thank God ! very well, and happy as our friends can wish. The Colonel has given himself much unnecessary trouble, and I am sorry for it, because ere this he will be sorry too.

I wrote to him on Wednesday last, and this day find his hand-writing on the superscription of a letter forwarded to me from Keswick. If I had ever expressed to him any affection for Miss D. except such as you have witnessed ; if I had ever even dropped a word on the subject to him ; he might have had some plea for complaint ; but God knows, and he knows, I never did. He has my free leave to write to all the world, if he finds any pleasure in such proceedings ;

ceedings; but no person, who really knows me, will believe that Miss D<sup>e</sup> has been deceived by me.

I wish I could be certain where this will reach you; but, fearing it may not be at Cockermouth soon enough for you to get it by the market people on the morrow, it is not in my power to say when or where we can meet, previous to my arrival at Buttermere, which will very probably be before the middle of this week.

Be pleased to present my best respects to Mrs. and Miss Wood. I will remember with permanent gratitude their goodness on this occasion; and, amidst the strange vicissitudes of this very eventful life, perhaps I may be blest with some opportunity of shewing how truly sensible I am of every kindness due to me on this occasion.

With the truest respect, esteem, and gratitude, to all my wellwishers,

I am,

Very dear and Reverend Sir,

Yours ever,

A. HOPE.

Love and duty attend those to whom they are due; and I beg you will tell them not to make any preparations for our return, for I shall have to move about almost as soon as I arrive, and my Mary will love quietness."

Mary of Buttermere has gone from home to avoid the impertinent visits of unfeeling curiosity. By all accounts she is much affected; and, indeed, without supposing that any part of her former attachment remains, it is impossible that she could view with indifference the tragical fate of one with whom she had been on such a footing. When her father and mother heard that Hatfield had certainly been hanged, they both exclaimed. "God be thanked!





WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



*The*  
**WONDERFUL SPOTTED INDIAN,**  
*John Boby.*

*Born at Kingston in Jamaica, to who exhibits himself in different parts of England & Scotland.*



## The WONDERFUL SPOTTED INDIAN.

*Account of JOHN RICHARDSON PIMROSE BOBEY, the wonderful Spotted Indian, lately known by the name of Pimrose at Pidcock's Menage, &c. and to most of the Nobility in the Kingdom.*

(The Public may depend upon our Portrait of this Remarkable young Man to be completely correct. It was taken with his own Approbation, having favoured us with his Company several times, and sat to our Artist.)

**T**HIS extraordinary man was born at Guangabod, in the parish of St. John, near Kingston, Jamaica, July 5, 1774, of black parents, who were slaves in the Rev. Mr. Pilkington's plantations. His mother, who had four children besides, was so alarmed when she discovered this her youngest was spotted-skinned, that she could not be prevailed upon to give him the breast. Such an astonishing child soon excited the attention of his master, and other gentlemen in the plantations, but particularly of Mr. Blundell, an eminent merchant of Liverpool, who then happened to be in Jamaica, and took him up in his arms when he was only a few months old, declaring him to be the greatest Curiosity in nature he ever saw. As soon as he had attained his second year he was (at the suggestion of Mr. Graham of Kingston and others) exhibited as a public show at 10s. 6d. each admittance, and a likeness of him at this time was painted and sent to England, which was afterwards deposited in St. Andrew's college at Glasgow as a singular *lusus naturæ*. From this painting an eminent engraver took a copy, and sold the impressions at 7s. 6d. each. On the death of the Rev. Mr. Pilkington, the plantations and slaves, including poor Bobey, his father and mother, were sold to Arthur Mackenzie, Esq. the present proprietor, and with whom the relations of our hero still remain. His former master having had several children, who were sent to England

land for their education, left to one son in particular (Henry Pilkington, who now resides at Birmingham) considerable property, together with this spotted Indian, whom he was to take care of and keep as his servant; but we are concern'd to state that the poor young man never possessed either the property or servant, through the treachery, we hear, of those to whom the trust was committed.

Daniel Dale, Esq. uncle to the above, is at present in the possession of many plantations in Jamaica, and likewise became the master of Bobey, who, at the age of 12 years was sent by his new master to England, and was christened at St. John's church, Liverpool, by the Rev. Mr. Hudson; the addition of Richardson was made to his name in honor of a gentleman of that name, a very reputable merchant at Liverpool, who was very partial to him. He was then sent to London, where he arrived on the memorable day when his Britannic Majesty and the English nobility went in procession to St. Paul's cathedral to return thanks on the king's recovery in 1789. He was first exhibited in the Haymarket at 2s. 6d. each for about two months. Soon after his arrival in England, he was sent by Sir W. Bogle, M. P. of Bloomsbury-square, for the inspection of the university of Oxford. The gentlemen of science there, particularly Dr. Thompson, concluded that the extraordinary spots on his skin, being so beautifully variegated all over his body, could not have originated from a fright of the mother, as in such case they would have been confined to *one particular part*; nor could they in any degree account for so singular a *work of nature*.

Mr. Clarke, the then proprietor of the wild beasts, &c. at Exeter Change, visiting this curiosity at the Haymarket, purchased him as an apprentice, by indentures, of Mr. Dale for 100 guineas, and he was in consequence exhibited at Exeter Change. The principal nobility of the kingdom now visited the Spotted Indian, who was also presented for inspection

inspection at Buckingham-House to their Majesties by Mr. Tenant, of Pentonville. Prince William of Gloucester frequently came to see him at Exeter Change, and Bobey being then placed near an Arabian savage, which was particularly attached to him, the Duke would frequently pretend to beat Bobey, while the consequent rage of the savage afforded much mirth to the company. In process of time Mr. Clarke sold his Menage by auction, and Bobey on this occasion assisted to bring forward the lots of monkeys, &c. As soon as the various animals were disposed of, it came to poor Bobey's turn to be offered for sale; but having during his short stay in England acquired some notions of our free constitution—having already felt the blessings of liberty, and being convinced that mankind cannot be sold here like brutes, as in his native country, with honourable indignation he refused to come forward, and said, "I can't stand that, I *will not* be sold like the monkeys." Mr. Pidcock, the purchaser of the wild beasts, however, bought him of Mr. Clarke for 50 guineas, that is, the remainder of his time by indenture.

Bobey, notwithstanding, having enlarged the circle of his acquaintance, and learning from his friends that no apprenticeship in this country could be transferred without his own consent; agreeable to their advice, he still refused his consent to the sale, but continued in the service of Mr. Clarke for some months after the auction, and also attended him as usual on Sundays to Charlotte chapel, Pimlico. Not contented, however, with Mr. Clarke's situation, he engaged himself with Mr. Pidcock at Exeter Change at a more liberal salary than what he had hitherto experienced. He left Pidcock after about four months service, and became the husband of an English lady, whose brother is principal painter to the Circus. For a while they visited the fairs in company with the exhibitors of wild beasts, &c, and from the great encouragement they received, they now resolved to set up

business for themselves. By a proper application of their savings, they soon made up a good collection of monkeys, birds, beasts, &c. and notwithstanding the expence of travelling, and the keep of five horses and men, which is at least two guineas a day, yet such are the exertions and industry of this couple, and the satisfaction they give at all the principal fairs, that there is little doubt but in a short time they will accumulate a decent fortune.

During their exhibitions Bobey has been frequently examined and rubbed by some ignorant people, who have imagined that his skin was painted; but they have been soon satisfied that there was no deception. This wonderful Indian can scarcely be distinguished from any other black when dressed and with his hat on, there being only a small part of his forehead, the hair of which to the back part of his head is as white as the finest wool, and shines like silver, while the rest of his head and hair, which is about three quarters of his head, is as *black as jet*; the delicate white spots, equal to any European, intermixed, together with the black on his breast, arms, and legs, resemble a beautiful leopard, and upon the whole he is a curiosity exceeding the power of pen or pencil to describe. He is about 5 feet 8 inches high, well proportioned, his features regular, and for an original native of America may be well considered handsome. He has a remarkable manner in imitating singing birds, particularly the sky-lark, thrush, black-bird, nightingale, and various others; also the young pig, puppy, and other animals. He has been for 6 or 7 years a member to the first masonic societies in this kingdom, both of the ancient and modern orders, No. 129, Union and Crown, Glasgow, and was raised to the degree of Royal Arch at the Minerva Lodge, No. 351, at Hull. He is also a member of several other societies, particularly the Druids, True Britons, Odd Fellows, Bacchus's Union, &c. Truly attached to the purposes of Free Masonry, he seems fond of displaying

displaying the insignia of that benevolent institution, which he carries constantly about him. He very willingly submits, when required, to be examined by the curious, with respect to the reality of his spots. In conversation he is affable, and in his dealings so very correct, that we may venture to say there are many *white* characters who would be found more *black* and fuller of *blemishes* than our Spotted Indian; in short, this pure child of nature seems to say,

Though partly black and partly white my hue,  
 No *double-dealer* I, like some of you :  
 Think not the colour black is a disgrace,  
 And that on Cain's account God mark'd our race :  
 Did Providence thus smite us for our sins,  
 How many white men would have *black*er skins.  
 Then it is plain *some Christians* judge not right,  
 For look at me—I am both black and white !  
 By one Creator all of us are made,  
 And thus behold his *wond'rous* pow'r's display'd.

#### AN EXTRAORDINARY PILGRIMAGE.

**T**HE author of the *Nouvelle Histoire du Duché de Valois* mentions the following anecdote, as a proof that the most respectable customs are sometimes as much exposed to ridicule as real abuses.

Catherine de Medicis (queen of France) made a vow that if some concerns which she had undertaken terminated successfully, she would send a pilgrim to Jerusalem, who would walk there, and every three steps he advanced, he should go one back at every third step. It was doubtful whether there could be found a man sufficiently strong to go on foot, and of sufficient patience to go back one step at every third. A citizen of Verberie offered himself, and promised to accomplish the queen's vow most scrupulously. The queen accepted his offer, and promised him an adequate recompence.

pence. He fulfilled his engagement with the greatest exactness, of which the queen was well assured by constant enquiries.

The citizen, who was a merchant, received on his return a considerable sum of money, and was ennobled. His coat of arms were a cross and a branch of palm-tree. His descendants preserved the arms, but they degenerated, by continuing that commerce which their father quitted.

T. BOOLE.

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To WM. GRANGER, ESQ.

I take the Liberty of transmitting to you an account of a very singular custom that prevails in the Peninsula of Portland, in Dorsetshire; it is related by the late ingenious Engineer, Mr. Smeaton, and the accuracy of it may be relied on.

I am, your obedient Servant,—W. I. S.

“WHILE I was looking over the quarries at Portland, and attentively considering the operations, observing how soon the quarrymen would cut half a ton of spawls from an unformed block, and what large pieces flew off at every stroke; how speedily their blows followed one another, and how incessantly they pursued this labour with a tool of from 18 to 20 pounds weight; I was naturally led to view and consider the figure of the operative agent; and after having observed, that by far the greatest number of the quarrymen were of a very robust, hardy form, in whose hands the tool I have mentioned appeared a mere plaything; I at last broke out with surprise, and enquired of my guide, Mr. Roper, where they could possibly pick up such a set of stout fellows to handle the *kevel*, which in their hands seemed nothing, for I observed, that in the space of 15 minutes, they would knock off as much waste matter from a mass of stone, as any of that occupation I had seen before would do in an hour. Says Roper, ‘ we do not go
to

to fetch those men from a distance, they are all born upon the island, and many of them have never been farther upon the main land than to Weymouth.' I told him, I thought the air of that island must be very propitious, to furnish a breed of men so particularly formed for the business they followed. The air (he replied), though very sharp from our elevated situation, is certainly very healthy to working men; yet if you knew how these men are produced, you would wonder the less; for all our marriages here are productive of children. On desiring an explanation how this happened, he proceeded: 'Our people here, as they are bred to hard labour, are very early in a condition to marry and provide for a family; they intermarry with one another, very rarely going to the main land to seek a wife: and it has been the custom of the island, from time immemorial, that they never marry till the woman is pregnant.' But pray (said I), does not this subject you to a great number of bastards? have not your Portlanders the same kind of fickleness in their attachments, that Englishmen are subject to, and in consequence, does not this produce many inconveniences? 'None at all (replies Roper), for previous to my arrival here, there was but one child on record of the parish register that had been born a bastard in the compass of 150 years. The mode of courtship here is, that a young woman never admits of the serious addresses of a young man, but on supposition of a thorough probation. When she becomes with child, she tells her mother, the mother tells her father, her father tells his father, and he tells his son, that it is then proper time to be married.' But suppose, Mr. Roper, she does not prove to be with child, what happens then? Do they live together without marriage? or, if they separate, is not this such an imputation upon her, as to prevent her getting another suitor? 'The case is thus managed (answered my friend) if the woman does not prove with child after a competent

competent time of courtship, they conclude they are not destined by providence for each other; they therefore separate; and as it is an established maxim, which the Portland women observe with great strictness, never to admit of a plurality of lovers at one time, their honour is no way tarnished: she just as soon (after the affair is declared to be broke off) gets another suitor, as if she had been left a widow, or that nothing had ever happened, but that she had remained an immaculate virgin.'

"But pray, Sir, did nothing particular happen upon your men coming down from London? 'Yes (says he) our men were much struck, and mightily pleased with the facility of the Portland ladies, and it was not long before several of the women proved with child; but the men being called upon to marry them, this part of the lesson they were uninstructed in; and on their refusal, the Portland women arose to stone them out of the island; insomuch, that those few who did not choose to take their sweethearts for *better or for worse*, after so fair a trial, were in reality obliged to decamp; and on this occasion some few bastards were born: but since then matters have gone on according to the ancient custom."



NATURAL PHÆNOMENON.

IN the Moniteur of the 4th of August there is an exceeding long report given in to the Minister of the Interior, of one of the most surprising phænomenas in nature which has occurred within the memory of man. It had been reported at Paris that a meteor had, in the latter end of June, burst over the town of L'Aigle, and had discharged a shower of stones which covered a considerable tract of country. The Minister of the Interior communicated it to the National Institute, who deputed Citizen Biot, a great chemist, to go to the spot and inform himself of the truth of the circumstance,

stance, and, if it should turn out to be true, to make such observations on this extraordinary incident, as would best conduce to the interests of science. With those instructions Citizen Biot went from Paris to Alençon (a large town about 15 leagues distant from L'Aigle). There he made his first enquiries, and was told by every person that a globe of fire had been seen moving in the direction of L'Aigle, on the 6th of Floreal (April 26) and that a violent explosion had been afterwards heard. From Alençon to L'Aigle, at every village the same account was confirmed. At L'Aigle he was informed that the meteor had burst about half a league from that town, and had discharged a shower of stones.

On arriving at the spot, he found in the fields for near two square leagues, a great quantity of meteoric stones, which differed entirely from the mineralogical stones in the neighbourhood, or from any that had ever been seen in that part of the country. Some of them weighed 15 pounds, and all of them, upon being broken, emitted a strong sulphureous smell. The stones themselves, together with the concurrent testimony of all ranks of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood, has put the fact beyond dispute. This globe was seen in its progress for above 30 leagues, and the explosion, which lasted near six minutes, was heard over a vast extent of country. This fact, which is attested beyond all possibility of doubt, is, perhaps, one of the most extraordinary phenomena in nature, which has recently occurred, and may lead to important discoveries in the science of natural philosophy.

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*Account of MR. JOSEPH DIX, a remarkable Character, who lives in High-street, St. Mary-le-bone.*

**T**HIS extraordinary person is now near 80 years of age, a native of Petersfield, Hants. His mother died about 12 years ago, at Newport, in the Isle of Wight, above 90 years

years old. She amassed near 10,000*l.* as a travelling hawker, dealing in British laces, and other things, all over England, Wales, Scotland, &c. and had all her faculties to the last six months unimpaired. She had two sons and two daughters. She made the daughters her executors, and left only the interest of her money to her own children during their lives, and the principal to be equally divided among her grand-children when the youngest came of age, the interest to go to the grand-children after all her own children were dead, to maintain them during the minority of the youngest grand-child. Her son Joseph, of whom we write, went to sea, and was in America many years as an assistant in an apothecary's shop, near Bunker's Hill, where the battle was, during the American war; but being a mild quiet man, for his peace and ease, he left that place just before the battle there, and went to other parts, and travelled about as a working jeweller, watch-maker, and cleaner, and was found very useful in making wheels, pivots, &c. in steel, brass, &c. and repairing the same; water-gilding and other things, and came to England from America the year his mother died, as above-mentioned.

The other brother, Hezekiah, was a house and portrait painter, a very ingenious artist, lived in Wapping. Neither of them had a child. When the brothers understood the sisters were left executrixes of their mother, in preference to the sons, it caused some jealousy with the brothers, and the sisters told the brothers, as they depended on their honesty, if they murmured, the sisters would stop the brothers income. The brothers put up with their sisters ill behaviour a few years, as they were very poor, and then unable to alter their case or their sisters conduct, and the brothers received their monies in such way and manner as the executrixes pleased to pay them. The sisters, who were married, and had both of them many children, alledged that as the brothers had no family, they ought

sought to allow the sisters to stop a trifle, as a present to the sisters children, at each payment. This they were forced for the present to comply with. The sisters also said, suppose we choose to take all the principal out, we could do so, and go abroad and live in style, and you would both die in a workhouse or a jail. About this time Joseph settled at Croydon in Surrey, as a watch-maker, goldsmith, &c. in a private way. He was introduced to a Freemason's Lodge there, the Royal Mecklenburg, and brought his brother Hezekiah to be a member also; here they became in a few meetings acquainted with the master of the lodge, which then, and for many years before and after, was a Mr. Wright, an attorney and solicitor in chancery, who lived in Duke-street, near Manchester-square, London. The brothers shewed this solicitor the hardship of their case (one morning after the lodge the evening before held) with their sisters. This attorney, who acted like a brother to them, filed a bill in chancery in the brothers names, against the sisters, and all power and authority was taken away from the sisters as executrices, and the principal monies became vested in the funds, conformably to the will; but in the name of the accountant-general of the court of chancery, and each of the parties receive their interest and money, when due, half-yearly, independent of each other, and without deductions, or seeing each other.

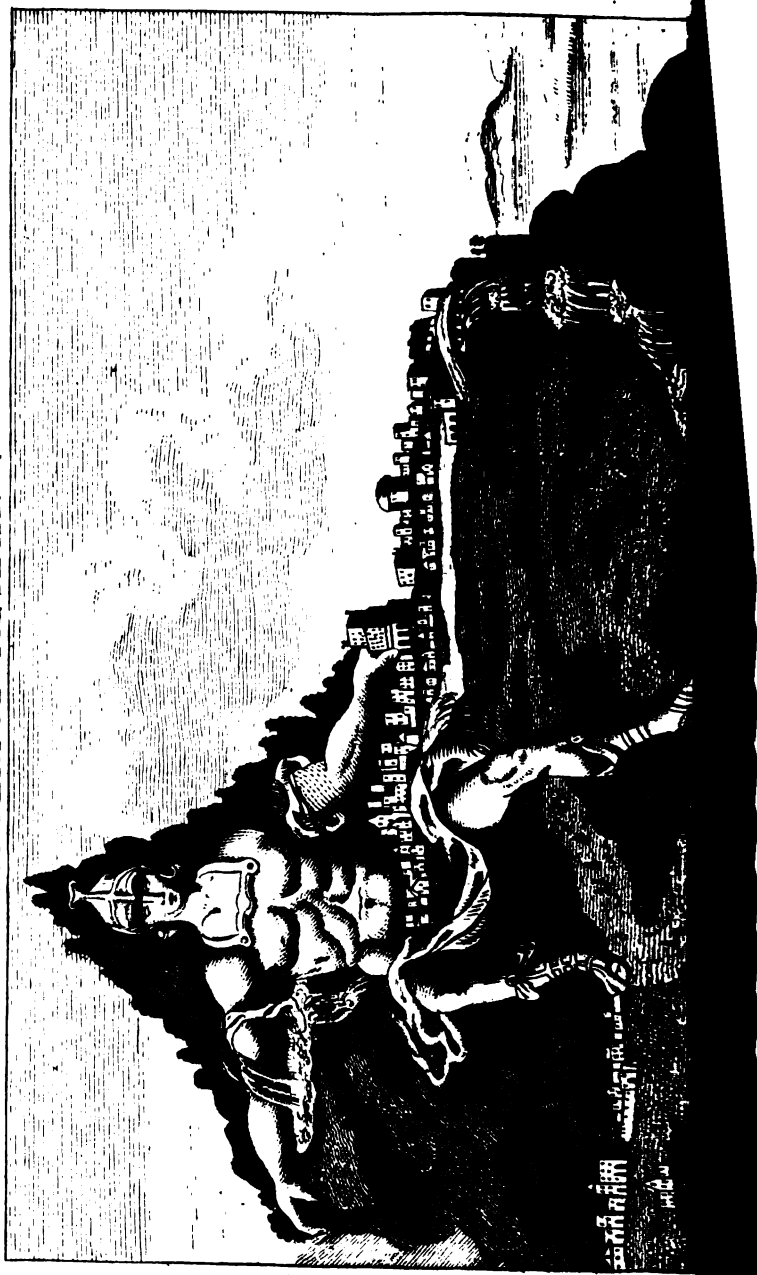
While this suit lasted, which was not exceeding six or eight months, the sisters totally suspended the brother's income, and but for the brothers solicitor, they would have been awfully circumstanced; and when at length a final meeting was appointed to pay the arrears, the eldest sister contrived to inform some parish officers, near Lymington, in Hampshire, of the meeting; and these officers seized Joseph at the eldest sister's house, near Bloomsbury, for a demand about 12l. which was pretended this parish had expended on some woman they pretended was Joseph's wife.

Joseph had, when a boy about 17, married at Portsmouth some woman old enough to be his mother, who, in a day or two after, robbed him of all he had, and decamped. He had never seen or heard any thing of her for above 40 years, and when he married her, it was before the marriage act took place in 1745. Joseph and his brother did not know how to act, but fortunately Mr. Wright was there with them: these officers produced a bill and some kind of an extract of the marriage, and the parties went before a justice in Hyde-street, Bloomsbury; the justice complained it was an intricate affair, and they went to Poland-street, Soho. Mr. Wright admitted all that was said to be true, but said as the woman was not produced, nor (had she been there) could they identify her to be the true person Joseph was married to; the justices dismissed the affair, and Mr. Wright bid the officers not to forget seeing the wax-work and the lions in the Tower before they left London, as they might not have such another holiday again at their parish's expence.

The brothers lived comfortably for several years, and never sought any farther interviews with the sisters. Hezekiah is since dead. Joseph lives by himself, receives his money half-yearly, and spends it chiefly in liquids; he eats very little, has been well educated, seen a great deal of the world, and knows how to behave himself as well as any person. He had a year or two back a fall down stairs, which has disabled him from following any business. He now wholly lives on his income. He is rather round-shouldered, and hump-backed; the reporter believes him to be a very good kind of man, and thinks if he had money, would relieve the distresses of others cheerfully.—He mixes medicines for himself, and is so well acquainted with drugs, herbs, plants, &c. that he knows a recipe for every complaint incident to the body. He had the piles for several years, and at length has nearly cured himself. He has  
read



WONDERFUL MUSEUM.





read much, can speak French, and knows Latin, and was once clerk to a lawyer when young. It costs him little or nothing for cloaths, he mends his cloaths and shoes, &c. himself, and in cold foul weather lays in bed day and night; he says the heat is more equal, and it saves fire, candle, and victuals, and reads by day-light in bed with a three-cornered cocked hat on, a pair of spectacles, and an old great-coat. He says those who lie in bed save the victuals, as it takes away appetite.

G. W.

*A Description of the Curious MOUNT ATHOS, which represents a Colossal Statue.*

THE extraordinary project of cutting Mount Athos into the form of a man, is attributed to Dinocrates, architect to Alexander the Great. It represents a man, who was in his left hand to hold a city, capable of containing ten thousand inhabitants—and in his right, a cup or basin, which was to receive all the water that rolled down this mountain, and distribute it afterwards to the sea by great precipices not far from the isthmus which Xerxes caused to be cut.

This project Alexander thought worthy his greatness;—and only disapproved of it by reason of the difficulties which would have arisen here to furnish a city thus situated without corn-fields or meadows, with the common necessities of life. He looked upon Dinocrates to be a great architect, but a bad œconomist. This mountain, which is hollowed out by art, differs very much from those to which nature has given figures. Such as Mount Yonion, near Liouany, which bears the figure of a woman.

*A Remarkable Similarity of THREE CALVES.*

**A** GENTLEMAN near Wakefield in Yorkshire, was in possession of a cow that calved three calves in one night, which resembled each other so exactly, that they could not be distinguished but by their keeper. Great numbers of people came from many parts to see them out of curiosity. They were all red and white, the hind legs of each were white, they had all a white streak along their backs of the same length. When they grew bigger, they all had white horns, which were black at the ends, and of the same length, and when they were measured from the tip of their horns to the end of their tails, they were all found the same length, except one which had the end of its tail bit off when it was young, by which the keeper distinguished it from the others. Another he distinguished by a few white hairs, about the size of a shilling, which the other two had not, and the last he knew because it had neither of these marks. One of them always went first, another second, and the other followed. When the first laid down, the other two followed the same example. A person, who like others came to see them, said he could easily discern that one of them would weigh four stone more than either of the others. Some time after the same person calling again, and still persisting that one was so much heavier than the other, the keeper desired him to point out which, this he apparently did with care, but which positively proved not to be the same calf he had fixed upon before. Notwithstanding the great singularity of this curiosity, two of them were sold to a butcher and killed. This account I had from a man who kept them a long time, and whose veracity may be relied upon.

Your constant Reader,—J. R. B.

*Remarkable*

*Remarkable Accounts of DR. MENZIES, and LOGAN the Great INDIAN CHIEF.*

*Account of the Extraordinary Sufferings of Dr. MENZIES amongst the Cherokee Indians; his Miraculous Deliverance confirmed by the proceedings against LOGAN, the famous Indian Chief, before the General Assembly of Virginia. LOGAN's Speech to the Assembly, as it is narrated in America, &c.*

ON the breaking out of the last Cherokee war, prior to our fatal war with America, Col. Lewis Sinclair sent David Menzies, an eminent surgeon, to visit a gang of negroes, the Colonel's property, that were set down on a new settlement, situated on the *Oconie* River, which is a stream of the *Alatamahaw*, and joins a branch of the *Savanah*, called *Broad river*, about 70 miles above the town of *Augusta*, in *Georgia*, and about 100 miles distant from the nearest town of the Indians. The following was related by Dr. Menzies, and afterwards confirmed by Logan :

“ On the night I arrived at Col. Sinclair's plantations, we were surrounded by a party of Cherokees, and, as we made no resistance, were taken all alive. We were then driven away before them, laden with pillage, into their own country, excepting two negroes, who, being sick and unable to keep pace with us, they scalped and left on the path. In proceeding to the Indian, I understood (having some knowledge of their tongue) that these Cherokees had lost in the expedition one of their head warriors, in a skirmish with some of our Rangers, and that I was destined to be presented to that Chief's mother and family in his room, at which I was overjoyed, as knowing that I had thereby a chance not only of being secured from death and torture, but even of good usage and caresses. I perceived, however, that I had over-

over-rated much my matter of consolation, as soon as I was introduced to this mother of the hero. She sat squat on the ground, with a bear's cub in her lap, as nauseous a figure as the accumulated infirmities of decrepitude, undisguised by art, could make her, and (instead of courteously inviting her captive to replace, by adoption, her slain child) fixed first her blood-shot haggard eyes upon me; then, rivetting them to the ground, gargled through her throat my rejection and destruction.

“ The famous Logan, a Chief of another territory, some of whose hunters were in the party who took us, sent to interpose for my life, and offered a great supply of gun-powder, shot, flints, provisions, and rum, for my ransom; but his offers were refused,—the feast of revenge was too delicious for the old ferocious savage.

“ My head ran on nothing now but stones, sticks, pitch-pine, scalping-knives, tomahawks, and the other instruments of savage cruelty; but I was mistaken in that too, and reserved, alas! for new and unheard-of torments. These Indians, in one of their late excursions into South Carolina, had met, it seems, with some larded venison which hit their taste, in consequence whereof they had carried off some larding pins as well as a quantity of bacon; and my carnibal mistress had determined to make, by means of an Indian who had seen the operation in Carolina, an application of this discovery to human flesh on me.

“ When it was evening, these barbarians brought me, stark-naked, before a large fire, kindled in the midst of the diabolical heroine's hut, around which the three or four other families, who were also inmates of this Indian-house, and other savages were collected, with store of rum before them, and every other preparation towards a feast; and two young torturers, having first bound me to a stake, began to experiment on me the culinary operation of larding. After they had  
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larded my left side, so as to exhibit a complete hemiplegia of bacon, they turned it close to the fire and proceeded on the other; but as this performance took up much time, on account of the inexperience of the operators, as well as my struggling, in which I afforded infinite merriment to the old hag and her company—the pin not merely going through the insensible epidermis, but lacerating also the pyramidal papilae of the cutis, which anatomists agree to be the seat of feeling; and as the savages all the while plied their rum impatiently, the whole assembly were soon intoxicated, when the alarm was given that Logan was arrived, and had set fire to the town. My executioners fled, leaving me roasting, and the old hag and some others fast asleep.

“ I did not let this providential opportunity slip me, but instantly disengaged my right arm (at the expence of the *palmaris-brevis museli*, and with a dislocation of the 8th bone of the carpus) and fell to untying myself with expedition. I then escaped into the town, from whence I dashed into the woods, having only stayed just long enough to place some of the firebrands in a position to fire the cabin, and not having forgotten to lay a small one in the lap of my inhuman the-tyrant.

“ When I perceived that I was not pursued, I looked back, and saw, with great satisfaction, the Indian town in flames; for the constitutions of these cities are very susceptible of inflammation, as the British red warriors have since discovered. I continued my flight through the wilderness, chiefly by night, steering South-east; but was soon alarmed at the immediate danger I found myself in of starving, unprovided as I was with fire-arms; yet, from this imminent distress was I preserved by the very cruelty of the Indians; nor am I ashamed to express, that I sustained famished nature by the bacon that was saturated with the juices of my own body.

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“ I have read of an English merchant who, in the Black Hole of Calcutta (I think), appeased his otherwise unallayed thirst by imbibing his own sweat, (or rather, indeed, by exciting the secretion of saliva by the action of sucking, as persons do who roll a stone about their mouths) and who at that time considered another gentleman's milking his shirt as a felonious proceeding; and I am satisfied, that I should have looked on any attempt to have deprived me of my Indian larding so much in the light of a robbery, as to have punished, even with unlicensed death, the invaders of my dearly acquired and, then, invaluable property.

I penetrated at last, through all difficulties, to Augusta, where I was entertained with great humanity and civility by Justice Ray; and was cured of my wounds, and of the fever, their symptomatic consequence. And so far am I from experiencing any material detriment by this Indian treatment, (for I am above accounting a few scars on one cheek such) that I have received (I imagine) a momentous benefit from it, as I have got rid entirely of a paralytic complaint, with which I had been for years afflicted in that left side of mine, which was roasted.”

Soon after the above extraordinary event and miraculous escape of Doctor Menzies, the war broke out with the Indians, and Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, marched with the militia and riflemen. An engagement ensued, when the Indians were defeated with great loss, and totally routed. A great number of prisoners were taken, amongst whom was the famous Indian warrior and chief, Logan, who had long been a zealous partizan for the English, and had distinguished himself, on many perilous occasions, above all other Indians in our service.

Logan was brought before the General Assembly, when numbers of officers and soldiers crowded to see the celebrated Indian Chief, with whom they had often served with so much

much advantage against the French, and even against the Indians.

Logan's person being identified by many witnesses, and his former comrades, the assembly were proceeding to deliberate how Logan should be tried, whether by a court-martial as a soldier, or at the criminal bar for treason, when Logan interrupted their deliberations, by asking permission to explain himself; and stated to the Assembly, that they had no jurisdiction to try him; "that he owed no allegiance to the King of England, being an Indian Chief, independent of every nation." He was interrogated as to his motives for taking up arms against the English, with whom he has so long been in friendly alliance, and so often distinguished himself against their enemies. In answer to this question, he spontaneously delivered the following speech, in defence of his being found in arms, with such emphatic power, and pronounced with such spirit that astonished and charmed the audience into admiration and esteem for the prisoner.

The defence of Logan, in his speech to the General Assembly.

"I appeal to any white man to-day, if he ever entered Logan's cabin hungry, and I gave him not meat—if he ever came naked, and I gave him not clothing. During the course of the last war I was so much the friend of your great King, over the great water, that I became in the end an object of jealousy and suspicion to my own countrymen; but I persevered notwithstanding; and the sun can witness for me, that he never rose, but he found, nor went to rest, but he left me in arms, in defence of the cause of your great king and his people. In this attachment and alliance, I should have continued with unshaken fidelity, till death had smote this *war-worn trunk*, had it not been for the injuries and oppressions of one man, Col. C——, who, without the smallest provocation on my part, farther than his own avaricious thirst for the plunder of my property, entered my

territory—burnt my houses—seized on my possessions—and not contented with all this inhumanity, butchered my beloved wives and innocent children, not leaving one to call me by the tender name of husband or father! My countrymen, roused by my injuries, and, fearing for all that was dear to themselves, loudly called on me to lead them on to war.—Could I refuse them?—I could not.—We marched—but you know the rest, and my heart bleeds at the remembrance! I did not take up the hatchet, the rifle, and the tomahawk, from *treachery*, or *disaffection to the great king or his people*, but for the safety of my countrymen. I did it not in defence of my own house—of my wives—or my children—for they were all destroyed before the hatchet was thrown! I did it not to preserve my own life—for life has no longer charms for me! All that was dear to me in this world has been stript from the face of the earth, and there is not at this day a drop of Logan's blood flowing in the veins of any human creature—except himself.—Who is there to mourn for Logan?—Not one!!!

Doctor Menzies attended at the Assembly, and demonstrated his thanks for Logan's humane endeavours to save him, by sacrificing what would have strengthened his savage neighbour, and endangered himself.

Logan confirmed the narrative of Doctor Menzies, he having marched a strong body of his Indians to rescue him, in case of a refusal to his offer to purchase him, and that he had set fire to the Indian town; but that he had been informed by those who escaped the flames, that the prisoner had been roasted alive, and consumed in the flames.

This pathetic and affecting speech touched the sensibility of all that heard Logan. The General Assembly applauded his noble sentiments, and immediately set him at liberty, and every house in Virginia endeavoured to rival each other who should entertain him the best, and shew him the greatest respect.



He was modest and respectful in the midst of this flattered greatness, suddenly raised out of hard misfortune and poignant affliction; and as Mr. Jefferson has beautifully observed, "This poor Indian, who, amidst the dreadful calamities of a bloody and barbarous war had never failed to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and relieve the necessitous and unfortunate fellow-soldier, then standing in the humiliating situation of a prisoner, became at once the object of their envy and their admiration; and every generous mind responsively, though silently ejaculated—Who would not be Logan? In a short time he returned to his native country, loaded with presents and honours, having exhibited proofs of heroism and bravery that would not have dishonoured an Epaminondas or a Scipio—with a heart bleeding at every vein for the loss of his most dear and darling appendages—but replete with the finest feelings of humanity, though inhabiting the bosom of a savage."

The narrative of Dr. Menzies is a fair example of the American manner of telling a story; and Logan's speech is a specimen of Indian eloquence.

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POISONOUS INSECT.

THE fifth volume of the Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, contains a very curious description of a fish, which is constantly accompanied by an insect. The fish is called *Clupea Tyrannus*; the insect *Oniscus Prægustator*.

The author of this article (Mr. B. H. La Trobe, a member of the Society) resided, in March 1797, on the banks of York River, in Virginia. He asserts that he has witnessed the following fact upwards of an hundred times:—Amongst the fish which in that season ascend York River, the *Old-wife*, or *Bay Old-wife* (*Clupea non descripta*),

arrives in very considerable quantities; and in some years their number is prodigious. This fish is equal in size to the largest herrings, and it is distinguished by a spot of a reddish colour, which is above its first fin. It is caught from the time of its arrival till May, and its taste is equal to that of the fresh herring.

In this season, each of these fish has in its mouth an insect about two inches long, attached to its palate by four feet, and of course in an inverted position. It cannot be removed from its situation without trouble, and perhaps injury to the jaws of the fish. Indeed, the fishermen consider it as essential to the existence of the fish, for when it has been taken away, the latter could no longer swim, but speedily perished. I have several times endeavoured, without success, to preserve both the insect and the fish; but I was always obliged either to destroy one or wound the other. I sometimes succeeded in separating the insect without doing it any injury, but the moment I set it at liberty, it eagerly re-entered the mouth of the fish, where it resumed its position. It was always very corpulent, of a disgusting appearance, and disagreeable to hold between the fingers; and whether it acquires its post by strength, or by favour, it is certain it speedily becomes fat in its position.

The fish, in the mouth of which this insect lodges, comes from the ocean into the river of Virginia, about the same time as the chad, and continues to arrive from the beginning of March to the middle of May, during the whole of which time it is fat and full-rowed; but I never caught one without finding an *Onisfous* in its mouth. The chad begins to retire from the fresh water about the end of May or beginning of June, at which time being thin, soft, and not eatable, it is not taken. It is asserted that the *Onisfous*, like all other parasites, abandons it's protector, when the latter is incapable of feeding it as well as it could in the time
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of its prosperity, for it has never been found in the mouths of those fish which have been taken in the months of July and August.

A SINGULAR CHARACTER.

THERE is a public notary, who is also a lawyer, in Duke-street, near Manchester-square, London, who speaks English, French, Italian, Dutch, Latin, and knows the Greek, and translates in those languages fluently; can play on any musical instrument, though he never received a lesson in music, or to play on any musical instrument, in his life; but he plays by musical notes. Is an excellent accountant, land-surveyor, and draughtsman; can dance and fence well; and understands cabinet-making, book-binding, looking-glass gilding, plastering, carpentering, painting, glazing, paper-hanging, and many other things. He seldom employs any trades-people, for the inside work of his house, when he has leisure time to do it himself. He cleans his clocks, roasting-jacks, &c. as well as any mechanic that makes them. Can play at back-gammon, draughts, billiards, bowls, field and court tennis, cricket, coxys, and skittles, with any one. Is an excellent shot, and is fond of fishing, hunting, jumping, walking, and riding, when well. Is a bad card-player, but knows a thousand tricks on cards, and other things in natural experimental philosophy, and electricity. Is a cheerful pleasant companion for young, middle-aged, or old; is a good reader, grammarian, orator, and writer; has spoke in public many times, and at Coachmakers'-Hall often. Never won or lost sixpence in his life, as he never plays at any game for money. Loves a good story or joke as well as a glass of good wine, in moderation, and goes to church every Sunday, unless prevented by illness, which is frequently the case

eats in the winter, he having but indifferent health. Eats but once a day, at three o'clock, and but very little at a time, a pound of meat lasts five days, a quartern loaf ten days, a pound of butter sixteen days. He eats no breakfasts or suppers, nor drinks tea in the afternoon, unless ill. He has four sons and one daughter, and his only sister has four daughters and one son. I think your magazine can hardly furnish a similar character.

Yours,—THE TRUTH.

A Remarkable VENTRILOQUIST.

ONE Gille, says the abbe Chapelle, who has written on the subject, desired me once to enter into his back shop, where, as we were sitting by a corner of the fire-side, and were face to face to each other, he amused me for the space of half an hour, by telling me many droll stories of his skill in ventriloquism. In a moment of silence on his part, and of absence on mine, I heard myself called by name in a very distinct tone of voice, which seemed to be so distant, and at the same time so very strange, that I was quite alarmed at it.

As I was now aware of the cause, I believe, said I to him, that you mean to speak to me as a ventriloquist. He returned for answer only a smile, but while I was pointing out to him the supposed direction of the voice, which to me seemed to come through the floor from the top of the opposite house; I again heard very distinctly the same voice which said, it is not on that side, and seemed now to proceed from the corner of the chamber where we were sitting, and to rise from the ground. I could not get the better of my astonishment; the voice seemed to be absolutely annihilated in the mouth of the ventriloquist; it appeared as if shifting its quarters at its pleasure, and coming

ing and going as it had a mind. But if the foregoing scene was singular, the following was infinitely more curious.

This ventriloquist happened to be walking with an old military man, who always assumed a stately air as he went along. His discourse was ever about sieges and battles, and he himself was sure to be the hero of the campaign.

To repress this inordinate vanity, Gille took it into his head to give him a dose in his own way, since nothing is more amusing than a vain man set in action. Being arrived in a bye-place, near the borders of a forest, our soldier imagined that he heard some one from the top of a tree cry out, It is not every one that wears a sword knows how to make use of it. Who is that impudent fellow? asked the son of Mars. Probably, rejoined the other, it is some shepherd a birdnesting. Come hither then, exclaimed the voice, which now seemed to descend along the tree; come hither, if you be not afraid. As for that, returned the soldier with a most martial air, and setting himself in a posture of attack, I shall soon make you easy. What are you about then? cried Gille, taking him by the arm, Do not you know that you will be made game of? A bullying air is not always the sign of true courage, interrupted the voice, which still appeared to be sliding along the tree, as before. This is no shepherd, observed Gille. But still I will chastise him for his impertinence, cried out the other. Witness Hector flying before Achilles, cried out the voice immediately after; upon which the exasperated soldier, drawing his sword, plunged it with all his might into a bush that grew at the foot of the tree. A rabbit instantly started from it, and ran off with all its might. Behold Hector, said Gille, while you yourself are Achilles.

This stroke of pleasantry disarmed the warrior, while it confounded him. He demanded of his companion what was meant by it, and the other then explained to him that
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he had two voices, which enabled him to act the part of two distinct persons; the one was that which he was then using, and the other which was heard, as if at a considerable distance.

But what upon the whole, are the causes of this phenomenon? With these the abbe Capelle seems to have been well acquainted, when he attributes them to a particular play of the muscles of the pharynx and the throat, which every man who is organized like the rest of his species, may acquire by constant and persevering exercise, and by an obstinate determination to bend the organs that way. This faculty, however, was not the labour of a wish to Gille, who had acquired it at Martinique by closely imitating a ventriloquist with whom he had contracted a friendship.

A straightening or restriction of the muscles of the pharynx, that choke or enfeeble the voice, by which means the sound becomes modified, and seems to reach us from afar, is the only cause by which this phenomenon is produced.



The Singular Phenomena of BURNING SPRINGS.

OF these there are many in different parts of the world; particularly one in Dauphiny near Grenoble; another near Hermanstadt in Transylvania; a third at Chermay, a village near Switzerland; a fourth in the canton of Friburg; and a fifth not far from the city of Cracow in Poland. There also is, or was, a famous spring of the same kind at Wigan in Lancashire, which, upon the approach of a lighted candle, would take fire, and burn like spirits of wine for a whole day. But the most remarkable one of this kind, or at least that of which we have the most particular description, was discovered in 1711 at Brosely in Shropshire. The following account of this remarkable spring was given by the Rev. Mr. Mason Wood, warden professor at

at Cambridge, dated February 18, 1746. "The well for four or five feet deep is six or seven feet wide; within that is another less hole of like depth dug in the clay, in the bottom whereof is placed a cylindric earthen vessel, of about four or five inches diameter in the mouth, having the bottom taken off, and the sides well fixed in the clay, rammed close about it. Within the pot is brown water, thick as puddle, continually forced up with a violent motion beyond that of boiling water, and a rumbling hollow noise, rising or falling by fits five or six inches; but there was no appearance of any vapour rising, which perhaps might have been visible, had not the sun shone so bright: Upon putting a candle down at the end of a stick, at about a quarter of a yard distance, it took fire; darting and flashing after a very violent manner for about half a yard high, much in the manner of spirits in a lamp, but with great agitation. It was said, that a tea-kettle had been made to boil in about nine minutes time, and that it had been left burning for forty-eight hours without any sensible diminution. It was extinguished by putting a wet mop upon it; which must be kept there for a little time; otherwise it would not go out. Upon the removal of the mop, there arises a sulphureous smoke lasting about a minute; and yet the water is cold to the touch." In 1755 this well totally disappeared by the sinking of a coal-pit in its neighbourhood.

The cause of the inflammable property of such waters is with great probability supposed to be their mixture with petroleum, which is one of the most inflammable substances in nature, and has the property of burning on the surface of water.

There are burning fountains in Iceland of a most extraordinary nature, forming at times *jets d'eau* of scalding water ninety-four feet high, and thirty in diameter, creating the most magnificent gerbes that can be imagined, especially

cially when backed by the setting sun. They arise out of cylindrical tubes of unknown depths: near the surface they expand into apertures of a funnel shape, and the mouths spread into large extent of stalactical matter, formed of successive scaly concentric undulations. The playing of these stupendous spouts is foretold by noises roaring like the cataract of Niagara. The cylinder begins to fill: it rises gradually to the surface, and gradually increases its height, smoking amazingly, and flinging up great stones. After attaining its greatest height, it gradually sinks till it totally disappears. Boiling *jets d'eau* and boiling springs are frequent in most parts of the island. In many parts they are applied to the culinary uses of the natives. The most capital is that which is called *Geyer*, or *Geyser*, in a plain rising into small hills, and in the midst of an amphitheatre, bounded by the most magnificent various-shaped icy mountains; amongst which the three-headed Hecla soars pre-eminent.—These are not confined to the land only; they rise in the very sea, and form scalding fountains amidst the waves. Their distance from the land is unknown; but the new volcanic isle, twelve miles off the point of Reickenes, emitting fire and smoke, proves that the subterraneous fires and waters extend to that space; for those awful effects arise from the united fury of the two elements.

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*An Account of JOHN LUDWIG, a Remarkable Character.*

IT is usual for the commissaries of excise in Saxony to appoint a peasant in every village in their district to receive the excise of the place, for which few are allowed more than one crown, and none more than three. Mr. Christian Gothold Hoffman, who is chief commissary of Dresden and the villages adjacent, when he was auditing the accounts of some of these peasants in 1753, was told that there was one  
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John Ludwig among them, a strange man; who, though he was very poor and had a family, was yet continually reading in books, and very often stood the greatest part of the night at his door, gazing at the stars.

This account raised M. Hoffman's curiosity, and he ordered the man to be brought before him. Hoffman, who expected something in the man's appearance that corresponded with a mind superior to his station, was greatly surprised to see the most rustic boor he had ever beheld. His hair hung over his forehead down to his eyes, his aspect was sordid and stupid, and his manner was in every respect that of a plodding ignorant clown. Mr. Hoffman, after contemplating this unpromising appearance, concluded, that as the supposed superiority of this man was of the intellectual kind, it would certainly appear when he spoke; but even in this experiment he was also disappointed. He asked him, if what his neighbours had said of his reading and studying was true? and the man bluntly and coarsely replied, "What neighbour has told you that I read and studied? If I have studied, I have studied for myself, and I don't desire that you or any body else should know any thing of the matter." Hoffman, however, continued the conversation, notwithstanding his disappointment, and asked several questions concerning arithmetic and the first rudiments of astronomy; to which he now expected vague and confused replies. But in this too he had formed an erroneous prognostic; for Hoffman was struck not only with astonishment but confusion, to hear such definitions and explications as would have done honour to a regular academician in a public examination.

Mr. Hoffman, after this conversation, prevailed on the peasant to stay some time at his house, that he might further gratify his curiosity at such times as would be most convenient. In their subsequent conferences he proposed

to his guest the most abstracted and embarrassing questions, which were always answered with the utmost readiness and precision. The account which this extraordinary person gives of himself and his acquisitions, is as follows.

John Ludwig was born the 24th of February, 1715, in the village of Cofse-daude, and was, among other poor children of the village, sent very young to school. The Bible, which was the book by which he was taught to read, gave him so much pleasure, that he conceived the most eager desire to read others, which, however, he had no opportunity to get into his possession. In about a year his master began to teach him to write, but this exercise was rather irksome than pleasing at first; but when the first difficulty was surmounted, he applied to it with great alacrity, especially as books were put into his hand to copy as an exercise; and he employed himself almost night and day, not in copying particular passages only, but in forming collections of sentences, or events, that were connected with each other. When he was ten years old, he had been at school four years, and was then put to arithmetic; but this embarrassed him with innumerable difficulties, which his master would not take the trouble to explain, expecting that he should content himself with the implicit practice of positive rules. Ludwig, therefore, was so disgusted with arithmetic, that after much scolding and beating he went from school, without having learnt any thing more than reading, writing, and his catechism.

He was then sent into the field to keep cows, and in this employment he soon became clownish, and negligent of every thing else; so that the greatest part of what he had learnt was forgotten. He was associated with the sordid and the vicious, and he became insensibly like them. As he grew up he kept company with women of bad character, and abandoned himself to such pleasures as were within

in his reach. But a desire of surpassing others, that principle which is productive of every kind of greatness, was still living in his breast; he remembered to have been praised by his master, and preferred above his comrades when he was learning to read and write, and he was still desirous of the same pleasure, though he did not know how to get at it.

In the autumn of 1735, when he was about twenty years old, he bought a small Bible, at the end of which was a catechism, with references to a great number of texts, upon which the principles contained in the answers were founded. Ludwig had never been used to take any thing upon trust, and was therefore continually turning over the leaves of his bible, to find the passages referred to in the catechism; but this he found so irksome a task, that he determined to have the whole at one view, and therefore set about to transcribe the catechism, with all the texts at large brought into their proper places. With this exercise he filled two quires of paper, and though when he began, the character was scarce legible, yet before he had finished it was greatly improved; for an art that has been once learnt is easily recovered.

In the month of March 1736, he was employed to receive the excise of the little district in which he lived, and he found that in order to discharge this office, it was necessary for him not only to write, but to be master of the two first rules of arithmetic, addition and subtraction. His ambition had now an object; and a desire to keep the accounts of the tax he was to gather, better than others of his station, determined him once more to apply to arithmetic, however hateful the task, and whatever labour it might require. He now regretted that he was without an instructor, and would have been glad at any rate to have practised the rules without first knowing the rationale. His mind was continually upon

on the stretch to find out some way of supplying this want, and at last he recollected that one of his school-fellows had a book, from which examples of several rules were taken by the master to exercise the scholars. He, therefore, went immediately in search of this school-fellow, and was overjoyed to find upon enquiry, that the book was still in his possession. Having borrowed this important volume, he returned home with it, and beginning his studies as he went along, he pursued them with such application, that in about six months he was master of the rule of three with fractions.

The reluctance with which he began to learn the powers and properties of figures was now at an end; he knew enough to make him earnestly desirous of knowing more; he was therefore impatient to proceed from this book to one that was more difficult, and having at length found means to procure one that treated of more intricate and complicated calculations, he made himself master of that also before the end of the year 1739. He had the good fortune soon after to meet with a treatise of geometry, written by Pachek, the same author whose arithmetic he had been studying; and finding that this science was in some measure founded on that which he had learnt, he applied to his new book with great assiduity for some time; but at length, not being able perfectly to comprehend the theory as he went on, nor yet to discover the utility of the practice, he laid it aside, to which he was also induced by the necessity of his immediate attendance to his field and his vines.

The severe winter which happened in the year 1740, obliged him to keep long within his cottage, and there having no employment either for his body or his mind, he had once more recourse to his book of geometry; and having at length comprehended some of the leading principles, he procured a little box ruler and an old pair of compasses, on one point of which he mounted the end of a quill cut into a pen. With

With these instruments he employed himself incessantly in making various geometrical figures on paper, to illustrate the theory by a solution of the problems. He was thus busied in his cot till March, and the joy arising from the knowledge he had acquired was exceeded only by his desire of knowing more.

He was now necessarily recalled to that labour by which alone he could procure himself food, and was besides without money to procure such books and instruments as were absolutely necessary to pursue his geometrical studies. However, with the assistance of a neighbouring artificer, he procured the figures which he found represented by the diagrams in his book, to be made in wood, and with these he went to work at every interval of leisure, which now only happened once a week, after divine service on a Sunday. He was still in want of a new book, and having laid by a little sum for that purpose against the time of the fair, where alone he had access to a bookseller's shop, he made a purchase of three small volumes, from which he acquired a complete knowledge of trigonometry. After this acquisition he could not rest till he had begun to study astronomy; his next purchase therefore was an introduction to that science, which he read with indefatigable diligence, and invented innumerable expedients to supply the want of proper instruments, in which he was not less successful than Robinson Crusoe, who in an island, of which he was the only rational inhabitant, found means to supply himself not only with the necessaries but the conveniencies of life.

During his study of geometry and astronomy, he had frequently met with the word *philosophy*, and this became more and more the object of his attention. He conceived that it was the name of some science of great importance and extent, with which he was as yet wholly unacquainted; he became therefore impatient in the highest degree to get acquainted

acquainted with philosophy; and being continually upon the watch for such assistance as offered, he at last picked up a book, called *An introduction to the knowledge of God, of man, and of the universe*. In reading this book he was struck with a variety of objects that were equally interesting and new.

But as this book contained only general principles, he went to Dresden, and enquired among the booksellers, who was the most celebrated author that had written on philosophy. By the booksellers he was recommended to the works of Wolfius written in the German language; and Wolfius having been mentioned in several books he had read; as one of the most able men of his age, he readily took him for his guide in the regions of philosophy.

The first purchase that he made of Wolfius's works, was his logic, and at this he laboured a full year, still attending to his other studies, so as not to lose what he had gained before. In this book he found himself referred to another, written by the same author, called *Mathematical Principles*, as the fittest to give just ideas of things, and facilitate the practice of logic; he therefore enquired after this book with a design to buy it, but finding it too dear for his finances, he was obliged to content himself with an abridgment of it, which he purchased in the autumn of 1743. From this book he derived much pleasure and much profit, and it employed him from October 1743 to February 1745.

He then proceeded to metaphysics, at which he laboured till the October following, and he would fain have entered on the study of physics, but his indigence was an insuperable impediment; and he was obliged to content himself with his author's morality, politics, and remarks on metaphysics, which employed him to July 1746; by this time he had scraped together a sum sufficient to buy the physics, which he had so earnestly desired, and this work he read twice within the year.

About

About this time a dealer in old books sold him a volume of Wolfius's Mathematical Principles at large, and the spherical trigonometry which he found in this book was a new treasure, which he was very desirous to make his own. This however cost him incredible labour, and filled every moment that he could spare from his business and his sleep for something more than a year.

He proceeded to the study of Kahrel's Law of Nature and Nations, and at the same time procured a little book on the terrestrial and celestial globes. These books with a few that he borrowed were the sources from which he derived such a stock of knowledge, as is seldom found even among those who have associated with the inhabitants of a university, and had perpetual access to public libraries.

Mr. Hoffman, during Ludwig's residence at his house, dressed him in his own gown with other proper habiliments, and he observes that this alteration of his dress had such an effect, that Hoffman could not conceive the man's accent or dialect to be the same, and he felt himself secretly inclined to treat him with more deference than when he was in his peasant's dress, though the alteration was made in his presence and with his own apparel.

It happened also that before Ludwig went home there was an eclipse of the sun, and Mr. Hoffman proposed to his guest that he should observe this phenomenon as an astronomer, and for that purpose furnished him with proper instruments. The impatience of Ludwig till the time of the eclipse is not to be expressed; he had hitherto been acquainted with the planetary world only by books and a view of the heavens with the naked eye; he had never yet looked through a telescope, and the anticipation of the pleasure which the new observation would yield him, scarce suffered him either to eat or sleep; but it unfortunately happened, that just before the eclipse came on, the sky became cloudy, and continued so during the whole time of its continuance:

this misfortune was more than the philosophy even of Ludwig could bear; as the cloud came on he looked up at it in the agony of a man that expected the dissolution of nature to follow; when it came over the sun, he stood fixed in a consternation not to be described, and when he knew the eclipse was past, his disappointment and grief were little short of distraction.

Mr. Hoffman soon after went in his turn to visit Mr. Ludwig, and take a view of his dwelling, his library, his study, and his instruments. He found an old crazy cottage, the inside of which had been long blacked with smoke; the walls were covered with propositions and diagrams written with chalk. In one corner was a bed, in another a cradle, and under a little window at the side, three pieces of board, laid side by side over two trussels, made a writing table for the philosopher, upon which were scattered some pieces of writing paper containing extracts of books, various calculations and geometrical figures; the books which have been mentioned before were placed on a shelf with the compass and ruler that have been described, which with a wooden square and a pair of six inch globes, constituted the library and museum of the truly celebrated John Ludwig.

In this hovel he lived till the year 1754, and while he was pursuing the study of philosophy at his leisure hours, he was indefatigable in his day labour as a poor peasant, sometimes carrying a basket at his back, and sometimes driving a wheelbarrow, and crying such garden-stuff as he had to sell about the village. In this state he was subject to frequent insults, "such as patient merit takes of the unworthy," and he bore them without reply, or any other mark either of resentment or contempt, when those who could not agree with him about the price of his commodities used to turn from him with an air of superiority, and call him in derision *folly* clown and a stupid dog.

Mr. Hoffman, when he dismissed him, presented him  
with



with a hundred crowns, which has filled all his wishes, and made him the happiest man in the world: with this sum he has built himself a more commodious habitation in the middle of his vineyard, and furnished it with many moveables and utensils, of which he was in great want; but above all he has procured a very considerable addition to his library, an article so essential to his happiness, that he declared to Mr. Hoffman, he would not accept the whole province in which he lived upon condition that he should renounce his studies, and that he had rather live on bread and water than withhold from his mind that food which his intellectual hunger perpetually required.



*Remarkable Instances of EXTRAORDINARY GROWTH.*

IN the year 1729, the Academy of Sciences examined a boy brought to them as a curiosity, who was then only seven years old, and who measured four feet eight inches and four lines high without his shoes. His mother observed the signs of puberty on him at two years old, which continued to increase very quick, and soon arrived at the usual standard. At four years old he was able to lift and toss the common bundles of hay in stables into the horses racks; and at six years old could lift as much as a sturdy fellow of twenty. But, though he thus increased in bodily strength, his understanding was no greater than is usual with children of his age, and their playthings were also his favourite amusements.

Another boy, a native of the hamlet of Bouzanquet, in the diocese of Alais, though of a strong constitution, appeared to be knit and stiff in his joints till he was about four years and a half old. During this time nothing farther was remarkable of him than an extraordinary appetite, which was satisfied no otherwise than by giving him,

plenty of the common aliments of the inhabitants of the country, consisting of rye-bread, chesnuts, bacon, and water; but his limbs soon becoming supple and pliable, and his body beginning to expand itself, he grew up in so extraordinary a manner, that at the age of five years he measured four feet three inches; some months after, he was four feet eleven inches; and at six, five feet, and bulky in proportion. His growth was so rapid, that one might fancy he saw him grow: every month his clothes required to be made longer and wider; and what was still very extraordinary in his growth, it was not preceded by any sickness, nor accompanied with any pain in the groin or elsewhere. At the age of five years his voice changed, his beard began to appear, and at six he had as much as a man of thirty; in short, all the unquestionable marks of puberty were visible in him. It was not doubted in the country but this child was, at five years old, or five and a half, in a condition of begetting other children; which induced the rector of the parish to recommend to his mother that she would keep him from too familiar a conversation with children of the other sex. Though his wit was riper than is commonly observable at the age of five or six years, yet its progress was not in proportion to that of his body. His air and manner still retained something childish, though by his bulk and stature he resembled a complete man, which at first sight produced a very singular contrast. His voice was strong and manly, and his great strength rendered him already fit for the labours of the country. At the age of five years, he could carry to a great distance three measures of rye, weighing eighty-four pounds; when turned of six, he could lift up easily on his shoulders and carry loads of one hundred and fifty pounds weight a good way off; and these exercises were exhibited by him as often as the curious engaged him thereto by some liberality.

Such

Such beginnings made people think that he would soon shoot up into a giant. A mountebank was already soliciting his parents for him, flattering them with hopes of putting him in a way of making a great fortune. But all these hopes suddenly vanished: his legs became crooked, his body shrunk, his strength diminished, his voice grew sensibly weaker, and he at last sunk into a total imbecility.

In the Paris Memoirs also there is an account of a girl who had her courses at three years of age. When four years old, she was four feet six inches in height, and had her limbs well proportioned to that height, her breasts large, and the parts of generation like those of a girl of eighteen; so that there is no doubt but that she was marriageable at that time, and capable of being a mother of children. These things are more singular and marvellous in the northern than in the southern climates, where the females come sooner to maturity. In some places of the East-Indies, the girls have children at nine years of age.

Many other instances of extraordinary growth might be brought, but the particulars are not remarkably different from those already related.—It is at first sight astonishing that children of such early and prodigious growth do not become giants: but when we consider, that the signs of puberty appear so much sooner than they ought, it seems evident that the whole is only a more than usually rapid expansion of the parts, as in hot climates; and accordingly it is observed, that such children, instead of becoming giants, always decay, and die apparently of old age long before the natural term of human life.

*Particulars*

*Particulars of Miss MORGAN, the celebrated Windsor Fairy, known in London and Windsor by the addition of LADY MORGAN, and of Mr. THOMAS ALLEN, a most surprising Small Man.*

**T**HIS unparalleled little woman was born at Chepstow, Monmouthshire, is at present in her forty-fifth year, and only weighs eighteen pounds. Her delicate form fills the spectator with an agreeable astonishment, and her admirable symmetry evinces the wonderful works of Providence. She was introduced to their Majesties at the Queen's Lodge, Windsor, on Saturday August 4, 1781, by the recommendation of the late Dr. Hunter, when they were pleased to pronounce her the most extraordinary display of human nature, in miniature, they ever saw. At the same time the king conferred upon her the title of *Lady Morgan*, and as *Lady Morgan* she has been ever since addressed. When visited by our artist, for her likeness, she appeared much pleased at the idea of her portrait being affixed to our work; but Mrs. Morgan, her mother, who attends her for private reasons, wished to decline it.

Mr. Thomas Allen was born at Godmanchester, near Huntingdon, of very poor parents, and is now in the thirty-fifth year of his age. His limbs are well proportioned, and his conversation lively and intelligent: the symmetry of his body is particularly pleasing, and his whole appearance so singularly striking, that every spectator is at first sight impressed with sensations of wonder and delight.

Diminution of size is generally the effect of deformity and accidents, and dwarfs are frequently so ill made, that human nature is shocked at their appearance. Lady Morgan and Mr. Allen are, however, exceptions; every limb  
and

WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



**MR. THO: ALLEN,**

*The Surprising Small Man, 3<sup>ft</sup> 3<sup>in</sup> high, aged 35.*

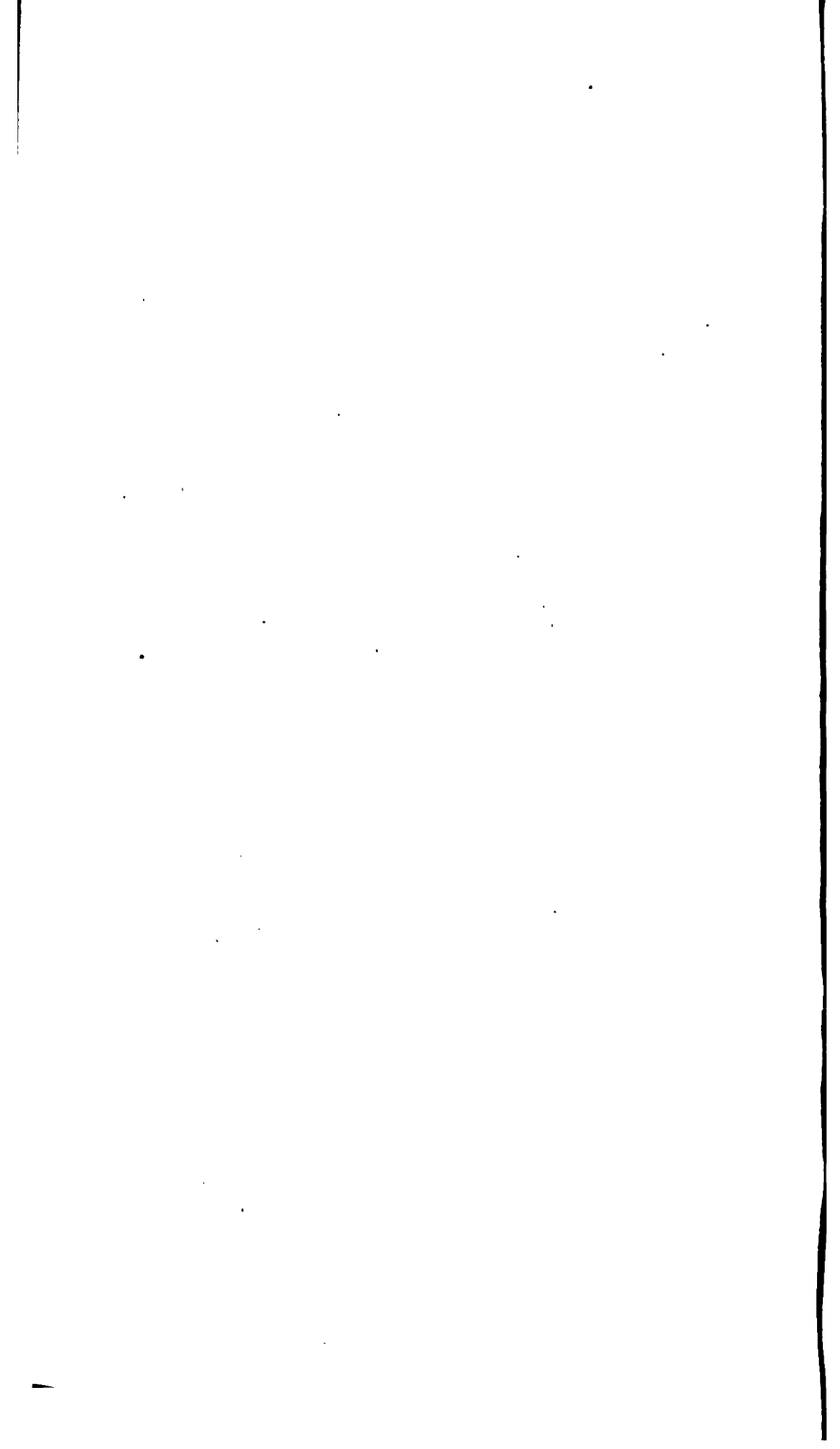
— and —

**LADY MORGAN,**

*The Celebrated Windsor Fairy, 3<sup>ft</sup> high, aged 45. —*

*Pub<sup>d</sup> by Alex. Hog, 18, PATERNOSTER ROW, Nov. 1803.*





and feature are so exactly proportioned to their size, that their visitors ~~are~~ not only ~~astonished~~, but delighted at beholding bodies in miniature so exquisitely formed, and as the psalmist says, "fearfully and wonderfully made."

They had the honour of being visited by their royal highnesses the Dukes of York and Clarence, at the Lyceum in the Strand, previous to their embarking for Holland, and by the principal nobility and gentry in London. They were also visited by the Prince of Wales, and the Prince of Orange, at Ascot-Heath Races, June 19, 1798, and likewise on Monday, Dec. 27, 1802, by the Duke and Duchess of York, with a large party of nobility and gentry; as they left Windsor for the purpose of seeing company in the market-place, Smithfield, during Bartholomew Fair (1803), we may naturally conclude they had a greater number of visitors, but not of such *rank and distinction*.

Though this little couple have been fourteen or fifteen years together, they could never, we understand, be persuaded to become *partners for life*; yet, we confess, when we saw them, we could not help thinking of the favourite song of Sheridan's:

"Ah sure a pair were never seen,  
"So *justly formed to meet by nature*."

But we were obliged to *make* the following lines for the sake of finishing the verse:

The lady, like a fairy queen,  
The gentleman—of equal stature,  
Oh how curious these dear creatures,  
Little bodies, little features,  
Hands, feet, and all,  
Alike are small,  
How wond'rous are the Works of Nature.

*Causes*

*Causes of the SURF and SWELLING of the SEA.*

THE surf or swell and breaking of the sea, sometimes forms but a single range along the shore, and at others three or four behind one another, extending perhaps half a mile out to sea. The surf begins to assume its form at some distance from the place where it breaks, gradually accumulating as it moves forward, till it gain, not uncommonly, in places within the limits of the trade-winds, a height of fifteen or twenty feet, when it overhangs at top, and falls like a cascade with great force and a prodigious noise. Countries where surfs prevail require boats of a particular construction very different from the greater part of those which are built in Europe. In some places surfs are great at high, and in others at low, water; but we believe they are uniformly most violent during the spring-tides.

It is not easy to assign the cause of surfs. That they are affected by the winds can hardly be questioned; but that they do not proceed from the immediate operation of the wind in the places where they happen, is evident from this circumstance, that the surf is often highest and most violent where there is least wind, and *vice versa*. On the coast of Sumatra the highest are experienced during the south-east monsoon, which is never attended with such gales as the north-west. As they are most general in the tropical latitudes, Mr. Marsden, who seems to have paid much attention to the subject, attributes them to the trade-winds which prevail at a distance from shore between the parallels of thirty degrees north and south, whose uniform and invariable action causes a long and constant swell, that exists even in the calmest weather, about the line, towards which its direction tends from either side. This swell, when a squall happens or the wind freshens up, will  
for



for the time have other subsidiary waves on the extent of its surface, breaking often in a direction contrary to it, and which will again subside as a calm returns, without having produced on it any perceptible effect. Sumatra, though not continually exposed to the south-east trade-wind, is not so distant but that its influence may be presumed to extend to it; and accordingly at Poolo Pefang, near the southern extremity of the island, a constant southerly sea is observed, even after a strong north-west wind. This incessant and powerful swell rolling in from an ocean, open even to the pole, seems an agent adequate to the prodigious effects produced on the coast; whilst its very size contributes to its being overlooked. It reconciles almost all the difficulties which the phenomena seems to present, and in particular it accounts for the decrease of the surf during the north-west monsoon, the local wind then counteracting the operation of the general one; and it is corroborated by an observation, that the surfs on the Sumatran coast ever begin to break at their southern extreme, the motion of the swell not being perpendicular to the direction of the shore. This explanation of the phenomena is certainly plausible; but, as the author candidly acknowledges, objections may be urged to it. The trade-winds and the swell occasioned by them are remarkably steady and uniform; but the surfs are much the reverse. How then comes an uniform cause to produce unsteady effects?

In the opinion of Mr. Marsden, it produces no unsteady effects. The irregularity of the surfs, he says, is perceived only within the remoter limits of the trade-winds. But the equatorial parts of the earth performing their diurnal revolution with greater velocity than the rest, a larger circle being described in the same time, the waters thereabout, from the stronger centrifugal force, may be supposed more buoyant; to feel less restraint from the sluggish principle of matter; to have less gravity; and therefore to be more

obedient to external impulses of every kind, whether from the winds or any other cause.

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RED SNOW *found on the ALPS.*

WHEN M. de Saussure explored mount Breven, for the first time, in the year 1760, he found in several places on a declivity snow still remaining, and was not a little surprised to see the surface of it, in various parts, tinged with a very lively red colour. This colour was brightest in the middle of such spots as had their centres more depressed than the edges, or where different planes covered with snow seemed to be joined to each other. When he examined this snow more closely, he remarked that its redness proceeded from a very fine powder mixed with it, and which had penetrated to the depth of two or three inches, but no farther. It did not appear that this powder had come from the higher parts of the mountain, because some of it was found in places at a considerable distance from the rocks and much lower down; and it appeared also that it had not been conveyed thither by the winds, because it was not disposed in stripes or in the form of radii. The most probable conjecture therefore was, that it was a production of the snow itself, or the remains of its partial melting suspended at its surface as in a filtre when the water passed through it. What seemed to favour this conjecture still more, was, that the colour at the edges of the hollow places where little water had sunk down was extremely faint; and, on the other hand, shewed itself stronger in those parts where the greatest quantity of water seemed to have penetrated.

M. de Saussure took a tumbler full of this snow, as he had no other vessel with him, and held it in his hand till the snow melted, when he soon saw the red dust deposit itself at the bottom. Its colour then did not appear so dazzling

as before, and when dry it lost it entirely : it decreased also in quantity, so as almost to appear nothing.

Next year M. de Saussure ascended the Breven, and found on it a quantity of the same kind of red snow, some of which he squeezed closely together and put into a large handkerchief, but before he got home it was entirely dissolved by the heat of the sun. It was not, however, on the Breven alone that he discovered snow of this kind ; for he found of it on all the high mountains of the Alps, about the same season of the year, and in similar situations ; so that he was much surprised that authors who had written respecting the Alps, such as Scheuchzer, had made no mention of it. It is, indeed, true, that it is found only in hollows, where the snow lies deep, and at a season of the year when the melting of it has proceeded to a certain degree ; for, when none of the snow or when very little of it has been melted, the dust is then in too small quantity to attract the eye ; and if the melting has proceeded too far, the whole of the powder has passed through with the water, and it becomes equally invisible. Besides, towards the end of the melting, a great many foreign particles and impurities, conveyed thither by the wind, are mixed with it, so that its colour is no longer distinguishable.

In the year 1778, when M. de Saussure was on mount St. Bernard, he found a great deal of the same kind of snow. He collected as much of it as he possibly could ; and Mr. Murrist, an experienced naturalist, collected of it also ; so that they were enabled to make some experiments. On account of its great specific gravity, M. de Saussure treated this red powder as an earth, first with distilled vinegar, but he employed so little that he had no result. He then boiled it in the muriatic acid, and obtained a solution, which, when carefully distilled and filtered, had so brown a colour that he was quite at a loss respecting the nature of this substance.

He therefore applied it to the blow-pipe, and observed that it flamed with a smell like that of burnt vegetables.

This experiment induced M. de Saussure to digest forty grains of the powder in spirit of wine; and, having filtered the solution, he found that the residue weighed seven grains less: the spirit of wine had become of a golden yellow colour. He then distilled it in a *balneum mariæ*, and the spirit of wine came off perfectly pure. An oily transparent matter of a golden brown colour, which by the warmth of the *balneum mariæ* had not become dry, remained at the bottom of the retort. This oily matter had a smell like that of wax, which it emitted also when burning. The deposit, which the spirit of wine had not dissolved, was, in regard to its extractive part, also inflammable; and the ashes which remained after it was burnt, though they did not seem alkaline, were fused by the blow-pipe into a porous kind of greenish glass.

These experiments seem to prove that this powder was a vegetable substance, and probably the farina of some flower. M. de Saussure was acquainted with no plant in Switzerland that produced red farina in such abundance as to tinge the snow of the Alps red; especially when it is considered that a great deal of it must be lost before it can reach the spots where the red snow is found. But the action of light, perhaps, may first give it its red colour; and, in regard to its specific gravity, that is not surprising, as by its long continuance on the snow it must, on account of the repeated slow meltings, receive such an accumulation of particles as to become dense and heavy.

M. de Saussure communicated his discovery to M. Bonnet, who advised him to examine the powder with a microscope, in order to see whether it exhibited the appearance of the farina of flowers. He did so with the greatest care and the best glasses, but he could not discover the least regularity in its form.

Though

Though M. de Saussure found this powder in different places on the Alps, he however asks, whether it be very common, and whether it be found on the high mountains in different countries and different climates, such, for example, as the Cordilleras? These questions deserve certainly to be examined; and, though it be probable that this powder consists of the farina of flowers, it is not altogether impossible that it may be an earth separated by the snow itself, and possessing some inflammable properties called forth by the immediate action of the light and heat of the sun, which shines with so much liveliness in the pure air of these elevated regions.



The Extraordinary LAKE and CAVE of AVERNUS.

THE Avernus is a lake of Campania in Italy, near Baia, famous among the ancients for its poisonous qualities. It is described by Strabo as lying within the Lucrine bay, deep and darksome, surrounded with steep banks that hang threatening over it, and only accessible by the narrow passage through which you sail in. Black aged groves stretched their boughs over the watery abyss, and with impenetrable foliage excluded almost every ray of wholesome light; mephitic vapours ascending from the hot bowels of the earth, being denied free passage to the upper atmosphere, floated along the surface in poisonous mists. These circumstances produced horrors fit for such gloomy deities; a colony of Cimmerians, as well suited to the rites as the place itself, cut dwellings in the bosom of the surrounding hills, and officiated as priests of Tartarus. Superstition, always delighting in dark ideas, early and eagerly seized upon this spot, and hither she led her trembling votaries to celebrate her dismal orgies; here she evoked the manes of departed heroes—here she offered sacrifices to the gods
of

of hell, and attempted to dive into the secrets of futurity. Poets enlarged upon the popular theme, and painted its awful scenery with the strongest colours of their art. Homer brings Ulysses to Avernus, as to the mouth of the infernal abodes; and, in imitation of the Grecian bard, Virgil conducts his hero to the same ground. Whoever failed thither, first did sacrifice; and endeavoured to propitiate the infernal powers, with the assistance of some priests who attended upon the place, and directed the mystic performance. Within, a fountain of pure water broke out just over the sea, which was fancied to be a vein of the river Styx; near this fountain was the oracle; and the hot waters frequent in those parts were supposed to be branches of the burning Phlegethon. The poisonous effluvia from this lake were said to be so strong, that they proved fatal to birds endeavouring to fly over it. Virgil ascribes the exhalation not to the lake itself, but to the cavern near it, which was called *Avernus*, or *Cave of the Sybil*, and through which the poets feigned a descent to hell. Hence the proper name of the lake is *Lacus Avernus*, the "lake near the cavern," as it is called by some ancient authors.

The holiness of these shades remained unimpeached for many ages: Hannibal marched his army to offer incense at this altar; but it may be suspected he was led to this act of devotion rather by the hopes of surprising the garrison of Puteoli, than by his piety. After a long reign of undisturbed gloom and celebrity, a sudden glare of light was let in upon Avernus; the horrors were dispelled, and with them vanished the sanctity of the lake: the axe of Agrippa brought its forest to the ground, disturbed its sleepy waters with ships, and gave room for all its malignant effluvia to escape. The virulence of these exhalations, as described by ancient authors, has appeared so very extraordinary; that modern writers, who know the place in a
cleared

cleared state only, charge these accounts with exaggeration; but Mr. Swinburne thinks them intitled to more respect; for even now, he observes the air is feverish and dangerous, as the jaundiced faces of the vine-dressers, who have succeeded the Sybils and the Cimmerians in the possession of the temple, most ruefully testify. Boccaccio relates, that during his residence at the Neapolitan court, the surface of this lake was suddenly covered with dead fish, black and singed, as if killed by some subaqueous eruption of fire.

At present the lake abounds with tench; the Lucrine with eels. The change of fortune in this lake is singular:—In the splendid days of imperial Rome the Lucrine was the chosen spot for the brilliant parties of pleasure of a voluptuous court: now, a slimy bed of rushes covers the scattered pools of this once beautiful sheet of water; while the once dusky Avernus is clear and serene, offering a most alluring surface and charming scene for similar amusements. Opposite to the temple is a cave usually styled the Sybil's grotto; but apparently more likely to have been the mouth of a communication between Cuma and Avernus, than the abode of a propheteſs; especially as the Sybil is positively said by historians to have dwelt in a cavern under the Cumæan citadel.

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*Singular Properties of the LOADSTONE.*

**L**OADSTONE is a mineral which is found in almost all iron mines; it is found in quantities in copper mines. It is very common in Arabia, in the islands of the Pont-Euxine, above in the isle of Serfs. It is also found in Italy, in Spain and France, at the mouth of the Loire; but almost all of the last places is very feeble.

Buffon distinguishes two species of loadstone; the primordial loadstone, and the loadstone of the second creation; the first,

first, agreeable to him, is a mine of vitrified rock iron, which has undergone the action of the primitive fire; but what does he mean by primitive fire? this is his meaning.—

He pretends that the tail of a comet which unfortunately passed too near our globe, put it into fusion, and vitrified it; afterwards, abandoned to itself, it took several centuries to cool and to become habitable. But this excessive heat, produced by the approach of the tail of the comet, which Buffon calls the primitive fire, and which, in concert with electricity, produced the primordial loadstone.

That of the second creation is also agreeable to him, an iron mine, which has suffered the action of the fire of volcanos, and also of electricity, in such a manner, that, agreeable to this celebrated naturalist, that an iron mine cannot be converted to a loadstone, but by the congenial action of fire and electricity. A fine matter indeed to discuss, if it were possible to remount high enough to attain and combat the proofs on which this opinion is founded, fruit only of a brilliant imagination, embellished with the magic of the style of its author; a matter quite foreign to the plan of this work, consecrated to the wonders of nature, which present themselves here in crowds, if we were not habituated to discover them continually before our eyes; which is the reason they lose, among persons of learning, all the marvellous, which they yet preserve to those who are ignorant of them.

What, in reality, can be more marvellous? What more astonishing than this species of sympathy which we constantly remark in the contrary poles of two loadstones; also that species of antipathy which constantly discloses itself between their similar poles? I will give here a few examples, which may be rendered astonishing, by modifying them in different manners; but all the marvellous lies in the art which will modify them, and has no relation to the object of this work.

Very well understood in other respects, these, these sorts  
of



of modifications compose the matter of several works, which are quite foreign to ours, and which are only fit to amuse the leisure of an amateur, without placing him within reach of knowing the theory of magnetism. From the number of those works, for the satisfaction of the reader, I will cite the new mathematical and physical recreations of Guyot; he will not only find this object, but several others also, not less interesting, and very well unfolded. I return to my subject. Several observations confirm, that iron works exposed to the injuries of the air, on the summits of buildings, are converted at length into real loadstones.

Three extraordinary examples are related. 1st. The cross of the steeple of Saint John at Aix, thrown down 1634, by a hurricane and thunder-storm. 2d. The iron-works which were found in 1690, in the demolition of the steeple of Chartres, almost the whole of which was converted into loadstone. The third instance, discovered at Mantua, is not celebrated. We read, in a letter of Philip Costa, (this letter is at the end of his treatise on the Manner of composing Antidotes) that a piece of iron, which had, for a long time, supported an ornament of brick-work, in the steeple of the church of Saint Augustin, at Mantua, was bent by the violence of the wind; the monks desired to have it made straight, and a surgeon who was present at the operation, observed that it resembled a loadstone, and attracted iron. These three fictitious loadstones, towards the end of the last century, attracted the attention of the Abbé de Valmont, who proposed explaining this admirable transformation of iron to loadstone; his system is to be found in a small work in 12mo. printed at Paris in 1692, entitled, *Description de l'aimant que c'est formé à la pointe au clocher neuf de Notre Dame de Chartres*. It contains also several curious experiments on the load-stone; but this ob-

ject is foreign to our work. We shall speak here of facts only, which are the subjects of these sort of observations.

Felibien brought to the academy a piece of ferruginous iron, which came out of the ruins of the steeple of Chartres. It perfectly resembled a piece of loadstone by its weight, its colour and attractive power. At the same time he communicated a letter to Pintart, a magistrate of Chartres, dated July 19, 1691, in which he informed him of the discovery of this magnetic matter in the demolition of the pinnacle of the new steeple of the church of Chartres, and sent him several pieces of it, some of which did not attract iron, though perfectly similar to the others. He observed to him that those parts which were formed being exposed to the air and outside the masonry, had no virtue in them, and that the stones of which the steeple was built were brought from and were of St. Leu.

Some time after, Felibien brought some other pieces of the same matter to the academy, some of which attracted iron strongly, and others not at all. There was among them a piece of iron of which this matter was formed, but it had no magnetic virtue. Pintart was intreated to observe in what position of the heavens he found this famous piece of iron; but he could not satisfy the academy on that head, as the phenomenon was not perceived till after the demolition of the steeple.

This valuable discovery was made by *Cassegrain*: he made it by observing that some pieces of old iron which had been used in the steeple, of which some parts still were attached to the stones, had the weight, the colour, and the solidity of loadstone. He afterwards proved that several of those pieces had the virtue: he valued the quantity of those to the eighth or ninth part of the iron which had been demolished, the rest having no virtue. De la Hire remarks, that the greater part of the pieces of the  
magnetic

magnetic matter, of some were very large and of great power, had their poles according to their width, that is to say, according to the breadth of the bar, which was endowed with the magnetic quality; and what is remarkable is, that the iron was not so much magnetised in its breadth as in its length.

This matter appears to be not only a changing of the iron into another matter; it appears also to be a species of vegetation: it had acquired a certain volume, and effectively in the places where it was formed, it had separated, and broken all the stones that it touched, and this it was that had caused the ruin of the steeple; this matter also had become brittle and much harder than iron; the file could no more affect it than it could the real loadstone.

There are found almost every where in old demolitions a similar vegetation on old iron contained in masonry or stone. De la Hire had collected some in different places, but found no others which had the magnetic power; he tried to communicate to them with a magnet, but without success, which proves that the nature of the iron is destroyed in those sorts of conversions. May it not be suspected that when this matter is provided with magnetism, that it owes this property to the lightning which often visits the iron-works of lofty buildings? for it has been demonstrated that lightning, as also electricity, has the property of communicating this virtue to iron.



*Singular TENURES, and Remarkable CUSTOMS, in England and Wales.*

**LITTLE DUNMOW**, or **Dunmow Parva**, is a village remarkable for a singular custom, which began in the reign of Henry III. an account of which we shall lay before our

readers, as extracted from the record published by the late Mr. Herne, of Oxford.

Robert Fitz Walter, Earl of Clare, became a great benefactor to the priory at this place, and instituted a custom that if any man, within a year and a day of his marriage, did not repent, or have any difference or dispute with his wife, during the first twelve calendar months, he was to kneel down before the prior, upon two sharp pointed stones and swear to the truth of the following oath, as administered to him by the steward of the priory, which if he did he was entitled to a gammon of bacon.

### THE OATH.

“ You shall swear by custom of confession,  
 “ That you ne’er made nuptial transgression;  
 “ Nor since you were married man and wife,  
 “ By household brawls, or contentious strife,  
 “ Or otherwise, in bed or at board,  
 “ Offended each other in deed or in word;  
 “ Or since the parish-clerk said, Amen,  
 “ Wish’d yourselves unmarried again;  
 “ Or in a twelvemonth and a day,  
 “ Repented not in thought any way;  
 “ But continu’d true in thought and desire,  
 “ As when you join’d hands in holy choir.”

While the oath was administered, the man and his wife were surrounded by all the people, not only in the village, but also in the neighbourhood, who, with the prior and monks, walked in procession round the church-yard, after which the steward repeated the following words to them :

“ If to these conditions, without all fear,  
 “ Of your own accord you will freely swear,

“ A whole

" A whole gammon of bacon you shall receive,  
 " And bear it hence with love and good leave :  
 " For this is our custom at Dunmow well known,  
 " Tho' the pleasure be ours, the bacon's your own."

Ere we make any remarks on this whimsical custom, we shall take notice of some persons who actually claimed the bacon, and according to the custom of the manor, had it delivered to them.

In the 23d of Henry VI. on the seventeenth of April, it was claimed by one Richard Wright, of Badeburg, near the city of Norwich; and John Cannon, prior of the convent, delivered it to him.

In the seventh year of Edward IV. on Lady-Day, it was claimed by Stephen Samuel, of Ashton, in Essex; and Roger Rulcot, at that time prior of the convent, delivered it to him.

In the first of Henry VIII. 1510, one Thomas le Fuller, of Coggeshall, in the county of Essex, came to Dunmow, and claimed the bacon, which was delivered to him by John Taylor, the prior, with all the ancient ceremonies. This is the last time that it was claimed before the reformation, as appears by the record published by Mr. Hearne, the original of which is now in the herald's office.

The custom of the manor continued always the same, yet the ceremony was different since the reformation took place; for the person who claimed the bacon, instead of being accompanied by monks, was only attended by the steward, officers, and tenants of the manor, together with a great number of spectators.

The following form, which we shall present to our readers in the words of the record, will best explain the whole of this ancient ceremony.

" Dunmow-priory, Essex.

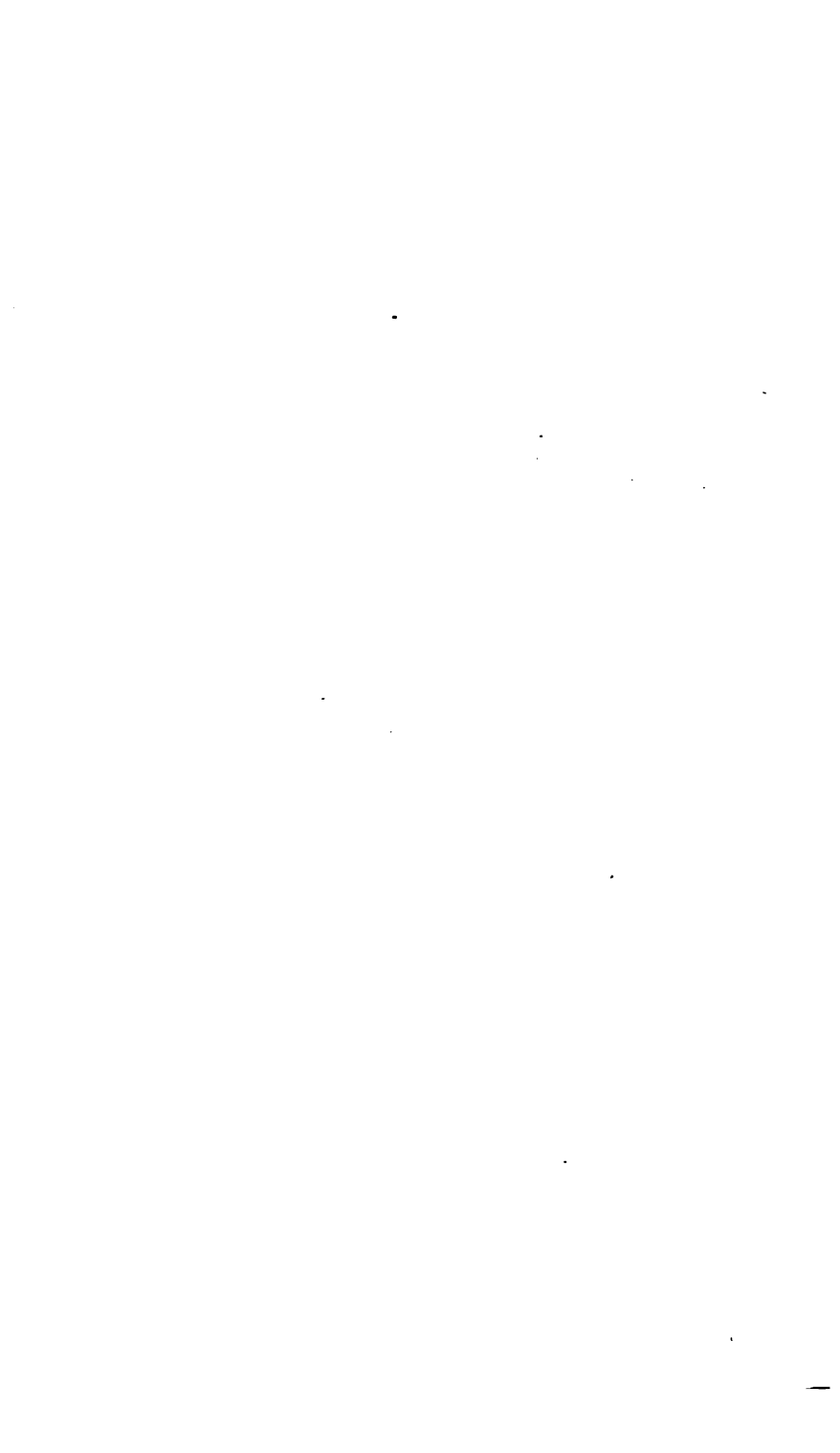
" At a court-baron of the right worshipful Sir Thomas  
 May,

May, Knight, there holden on Friday the 27th of June, in the 13th year of the reign of our sovereign Lord William III. by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. and in the year of our Lord 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, gentleman-steward there.

|         |                     |                       |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Homage, | Elizabeth Beaumont, | } Spinsters,<br>Jur'. |
|         | Henrietta Beaumont, |                       |
|         | Annabella Beaumont, |                       |
|         | Jane Beaumont,      |                       |
|         | Mary Wheeler,       |                       |

“ Be it remembered, That at this court, it is found and presented, by the homage aforesaid, that John Reynolds, of Hatfield-Regis, alias Hatfield-Broad-Oak, in the county of Essex, Gent. and Anne his wife, have been married for the space of ten years past, and upwards; and it is likewise found, presented, and adjudged, by the homage aforesaid, that the said J. Reynolds, and Anne his wife, by means of their quiet and peaceable, tender and loving cohabitation, for the space of time aforesaid, as appears by reference to the said homage, are fit and qualified persons to be admitted by the court to receive the ancient and accustomed oath, whereby to entitle themselves to have the bacon of Dunmow delivered unto them, according to the custom of the manor.

“ Whereupon at the court, in full open court, came the said John Reynolds and Anne his wife, in their proper persons, and humbly prayed, that they might be admitted to take the oath aforesaid: whereupon the said steward, with the jury, suitors, and other officers of the court, proceeded with the usual solemnity to the ancient and accustomed place for the administration of the oath, and receiving the bacon aforesaid; that is to say, to the







two great stones lying near the church door, within the said manor; when the said John Reynolds and Anne his wife, kneeling down on the said two stones, the said steward did administer to them the above-mentioned oath. Being both lawfully sworn, the said steward delivered to them the gammon of bacon, with the usual solemnity.

“ At the same time, William Parsley, of Muck-Eyston, in the county of Essex, and Jane his wife, being married for the space of three years last past, and upwards, by means of their quiet, peaceable, tender, and loving cohabitation, for the said space of time, came and claimed the said bacon, and had it delivered to them according to the aforesaid order.

“ Thomas Wheeler, steward.”

In 1751, on the 20th of June, at a court of the manor, it was claimed by one John Shakeshanks, at Watersfield, Wool-Comber, and Anne his wife, and the steward delivered it to them.

It was well conceived by a philosopher, who being asked What was the best emblem of happiness in the marriage state? instead of giving him a direct answer, went to his closet, and drew the picture of two oxen in a yoke, with the following motto underneath, “ Draw equal.”

Our readers will be convinced, from the words of the oath already recited, that it is not so ancient as the custom, and was probably written some time in the last century, when the language of the old one became difficult to be understood.

The Earl of Sutherland and his lady, who both died at Bath in 1766, lived in so happy a manner, that had they recovered from that fatal sickness which carried them both into eternity, they intended to have gone to Dunmow and claimed the bacon. According to report, a few years ago,  
this

this custoth had been suppressed by Mr. Crawley, the lord of the manor, who, being perfectly satisfied that it had been wrongfully claimed by several, and was always productive of idleness and riotings, was, by the nature of the original grant, warranted to do so.

Formerly a custom similar to this of Dunmow was practised at Wickenor in Staffordshire, though the oath was not so strict; as the following ancient form of it will shew:

“ Here (hear) ye Sir Philip de Somerville, Lord of Whichenour, mayntayner and gyver of this baccone, that I [A] sith I wedded [B] my wife, and sith I hadd hyr in my kepyng, and at my wyll, by a yere and a day after our marriage, I wold not have changed for none other, farer ne fowler, richer ne powrer; ne for none other descended of gretter lynage: sleeping ne waaking at noo time. And if the said [B] were sole, and I sole, I wold take her to be my wyfe before all the wymen of the worlde, of what condicions soever they be, good or evylle, as help me God, and his seyntes, and this flesh, and all fleshes.”

#### WORKSOP.—County of NOTTINGHAM.

King Henry VIII. in the 33d year of his reign, granted to George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, the scite and precinct of the monastery of Worksop, with its appurtenances, in the county of Nottingham; to be held of the king in *capite*, by the service of the tenth part of a knight's fee;\* and by the royal service of finding the king a *right hand glove* at his coronation, and to support his *right arm*, that day, as long as he should hold the sceptre in his hand; and paying yearly 23l. 8s. 0½d.

At the coronation of King James II. this service was claimed and allowed.—And at the coronation of his present

\* A Knight's fee in the reign of Edw. II. amounted to 20l.

Majesty George III. the same service was performed by the Most Honorable Charles, Marquis of Rockingham, as deputy to the Duke of Norfolk, lord of the manor of Worklop.

HEYDON.—County of ESSEX.

At the coronation of King James II. the lord of the manor of Heydon, in Essex, claimed to hold the *bason* and *ewer* to the King, by virtue of one moiety, and the *towel* by virtue of another moiety of the said manor, when the king washes before dinner. Which claim was allowed as to the towel only.

BARDOLFE.—County of SURRY.

And at the coronation of the same King, the lord of the manor of Bardolfe, in Addington, Surry, claimed to find a man to make a mess of *grout* in the King's kitchen; and therefore prayed that the King's Master Cook might perform that service. Which claim was allowed, and the said lord of the manor brought it up to the King's table.

LISTON.—County of ESSEX.

In the 4th of Edward III. Joan, the wife of William Leston, held the manor of Overhall, in this parish, by the service of paying for, bringing in, and placing of *five washers* before the King, as he sits at dinner upon the day of his coronation.

At the coronation of King James II. the lord of the manor of Liston, in Essex, claimed to make *washers* for the King and Queen, to serve them up to their table; to have all the instruments of *silver* and other *metal*, used about the same, with the *linen* and certain proportions of ingredients, and other necessities, and *liveries* for himself and two men. Which claim was allowed, and the service,

with his consent, performed by the King's officers, and the fees compounded for at 30l.

At the coronation of their present Majesties, William Campbell, of Liston Hall, Esq. as lord of this manor, claimed to do the same service, which was allowed; and the King was pleased to appoint his son, William Henry Campbell, Esq. to officiate as his deputy, who accordingly attended and presented the *wafers* to their Majesties.

WINTERSLEW.—County of WILTS.

John de Roches holds the manor of Winterslew, in the county of Wilts, by the service, that when our lord the King should abide at Clarendon, he should come to the palace of the King there, and go into the butlery, and draw out of any vessel he should find in the said butlery, at his choice, as much wine as should be needful for making a *Pitcher of Claret*, which he should make at the King's charge; and that he should serve the King with a *cup*, and should have the vessel from whence he took the wine, with all the remainder of the wine left in the vessel, together with the cup from whence the King should drink that *claret*.

COPERLAND, and ATTERTON.—County of KENT.

Solomon Attefeld held land at Keperland and Atterton, in the County of Kent, that as often as our lord the King would cross the sea, the said Solomon and his heirs ought to go along with him, to hold his *head* on the sea, if it was needful.

HEMINGSTON.—County of SUFFOLK.

Rowland le Sarcere held one hundred and ten acres of land in Hemingston, in the county of Suffolk, by serjeanty; for which, on Christmas-day, every year, before our sovereign lord the King of England, he should perform, altogether,

gether, and at once, a *leap*, a *puff*, and a *f—t*; or as Mr. Blount has it, he should *dance*, *puff up his cheeks*, making therewith a sound, and let a *crack*; and, because it was an indecent service, therefore it was rented, says the record, at 26s. 8d. a year, at the King's Exchequer.

One Baldwin, also, formerly held those lands by the same service; and was called by the nick-name of Baldwin le Pettour.

OVENHELLE.—County of KENT.

Sir Osbert de Longchamp, Knight, holds certain land which is called Ovenhelle, in the county of Kent, by the service of following our lord the King in his army into Wales forty days, at his own costs, with a *horse* of the price of five shillings, a *sack* of the price of sixpence, and with a *needle* to the same *sack*.

MORTON.—County of ESSEX.

Henry de Averyng holds the manor of Morton, in the county of Essex, in *capite* of our lord the King, by the service of finding one *man* with a *horse*, of the price of ten shillings, and four *horse-shoes*, and one *leather sack*, and one *iron jug*, as often as it should happen for the King to go into Wales with his army, at his own charges, for forty days.

LEWE.—County of OXON.

Robert de Eylesford holds three yard-lands\* in Lewe, in the county of Oxford, of our lord the King, by the ser-

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\* Yard-land is a quantity of land, different, in different places; at Wimbleton in Surrey, it is fifteen acres, in other counties it is twenty, in some twenty-four, and in others thirty or forty acres. *Bracton*, lib. 2. c. 10.

vice of finding a *man*, with a *bow* and *arrows*, for forty days, at his own proper costs, whensoever it should happen that the King went into Wales with his army.

CHETTINGTON.—County of SALOP.

Roger Corbet holds the manor of Chettingham, in the county of Salop, of the King in *capite*, by the service of finding one *footman* in time of war, in the King's army in Wales, with one *bow* and three *arrows*, and one *pale*, and carrying with him one *bacon* or *salted hog*; and when he comes to the army, delivering to the King's Marshal a moiety of the *bacon*; and thence the Marshal was to deliver to him daily, some of that moiety for his dinner, so long as he stayed in the army; and he was to follow the army so long as that half of the *bacon* should last.

BRINESTON.—County of CHESTER, or DORSET.

The manor of Brineston, in the county of Chester, is held the King in *capite*, by the service of finding a man in the army of our lord the King going into the parts of Scotland *barefoot*, clothed with a *shirt* and *breeches*, having in one hand a *bow without a string*, and in the other an *arrow unfeathered*.

AYLESBURY.—County of BUCKS.

William, son of William de Aylesbury, holds three yard-lands of our lord the King in Aylesbury, in the county of Bucks, by the serjeanty of finding *straw* for the *bed* of our lord the King, and to *straw his chamber*, and by paying three *eels* to our lord the King, when he should come to Aylesbury in winter. And also finding for the King, when he should come to Aylesbury in summer, *straw* for his *bed*; and moreover *grafs* or *rusbes* to *strewe* his chamber, and also paying two *green geese*; and these services  
aforesaid

aforesaid he was to perform thrice a year, if the King should happen to come three times to Aylesbury, and not oftener.

STOW.—County of CAMBRIDGE.

John de Curtese held thirty acres of land in Stow, in the county of Cambridge, by the serjeanty of carrying a *truss of hay* to the *necessary-house* of our lord the King, when the King passed through those parts, and is rated at the Exchequer at ten shillings a year.

YARMOUTH.—County of NORFOLK.

This town, by charter, is bound to send to the sheriffs of Norwich a hundred *herrings*, which are to be baked in *twenty-four pies* or *passies*, and thence delivered to the lord of the manor of East-Carlton, who is to convey them to the King.

WINGFIELD.—County of SUFFOLK.

Geoffrey Frumband held sixty acres of land in Wingfield, in the county of Suffolk, by the service of paying to our lord the king two *white doves* yearly.

FINCHINGFIELD.—County of ESSEX.

John Compes held this manor of King Edward III. by the service of *turning the spit* at his coronation.

BOROUGH of GUILDFORD.—County of SURRY.

Robert Testard held certain land in the town of Guildford, by serjeanty of keeping the *whores* in the court of our lord the King. And it is set at 25s. a year rent.

Thomas de la Paille holds one serjeanty in the town of Guildford, of the gift of Richard Testard, for which he formerly used to keep the *laundresses* of the King's court; and now he pays at the Exchequer 25s.

## BOCKHAMPTON.—County of BERKS.

William Hoppeshort holds half a yard-land in that town of our lord the king, by the service of keeping for the King *six damsels*, to wit, *whores*, at the cost of the King.—This was called pimp-tenure.

## GATESHILL.—County of SURRY.

Robert de Gatton holds the manor of Gateshill, in the county of Surry, by the serjeanty of being *marshal* of twelve *girls* who followed the King's court.

Hamo de Gatton holds the manor of Gatehull, in the county of Surry, of our lord the King, by serjeanty of being *marshal* of the *whores*, when the King should come into those parts. And he was not to hold it but at the will of the King.

## SETENE, or SEATON.—County of KENT.

Bertram de Criol held the manor of Setene, in the county of Kent, of the King by serjeanty, viz. to provide one man, called *Veltrarius*, a *Vautrer*, to lead three *greyhounds* when the King should go into Gascony, so long as a *pair of shoes of fourpence price* should last.

## BOYTON.—County of ESSEX.

William de Reynes formerly held two carucates\* of land in Boyton, in the parish of Finchingfend (Finchingfield) in the county of Essex, by the serjeanty of keeping for the

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\* Carucate, or a plough land, was formerly such a quantity of land as might be tilled in a year and a day by one plough; but by stat. 7, 8 William III. c. 29, sec. 5, it is land-houses, &c. to the value of 50l. per annum.



King five *wolf-dogs*. And the Dean and Chapter of London now hold that land.

SOCKBURN.—County of DURHAM.

In the eighth year of the pontificate of Walter Shirlawe, Bishop of Durham, 1395, Sir John Conyers, Knight, died seised in his demesne, as of fee tail, to him and the heirs male of his body issuing, of the manor of Sockburn, with the appurtenances; which same manor was held of the lord bishop in *capite*, by the service of shewing to the lord bishop one *fawchon* (*falchion*) which after having been seen by the bishop was to be restored to him, in lieu of all other services.

This valuable manor of Sockburn (the seat of the ancient family of Conyers, in the bishopric of Durham) worth 554*l.* a year, was in the year 1771, the estate of Sir Edward Blackett, and is held of the Bishop of Durham by the easy service of presenting a *falchion* to every bishop, upon his first entrance into his diocese, as an emblem of his temporal power.

The manor of Sockburn was purchased by the late Sir William Blackett, baronet, of the grand-daughter of the last of the family of Conyers, of Sockburn, whose mother was married into the family of the Earl of Shrewsbury. The family of Conyers were barons of the palatinate, and lords of the Sockburn from the conquest, and before, till the inheritance was so carried, within a century past, by the marriage of the heiress into the family of the Earl of Shrewsbury, as above-mentioned; and by her daughter was sold amongst other estates to Sir William Blackett.

Sir Edward Blackett now represents the person of Sir John Conyers, who, as tradition says, in the fields of Sockburn, slew, with this *falchion*, a monstrous creature, a dragon, a worm, or flying serpent, that devoured men, women, and children. The then owner of Sockburn, as a reward for his bravery, gave him the manor, with its appur-

appurtenances to hold for ever, on condition that he meets the Lord Bishop of Durham with this *falchion*, on his first entrance into his diocese, after his election to that see.

And in confirmation of this tradition, there is painted in a window of Sockburn Church, the *falchion* we just now spoke of; and it is also cut in marble, upon the tomb of the great ancestor of the Conyers, together with a dog, and the monstrous worm or serpent, lying at his feet, of his own killing, of which the history of the family gives the above account.

When the bishop first comes into his diocese, he crosses the river Tees, either at the ford at Nesham, or Croft-Bridge; (where the counties of York and Durham divide) at one of which places, Sir Edward Blackett, either in person, or by his representative, if the bishop comes by Nesham, rides into the middle of the river Tees, with the ancient *falchion* drawn in his hand, or upon the middle of Croft-Bridge; and then presents the *falchion* to the bishop, addressing him in the ancient form of words. Upon which the bishop takes the *falchion* into his hands, looks at it, and returns it back again, wishing the lord of the manor his health, and the enjoyment of his estate.

#### BISHOP'S AUKLAND—County of DURHAM.

In the 12th year of the pontificate of Bishop Shirlawe, 1399, Dionisia, widow of John Pollard the elder, died seised of one piece of land, called Hekes, near the park of Auckland, which was held of the lord bishop in *capite*; by the service of shewing to the bishop one *fauchon*, at his first coming to Auckland after his consecration.

These lands, now called Pollard's Lands, at Bishop's Auckland, worth above 200l. a year, continued to be held by the same service. Dr. Johnson, of Newcastle, met the late bishop Dr. Egerton, in September 1771, at his first arrival

arrival there, and presented a *salchion* upon his knee, and addressed him in the old form of words, saying,

“ My Lord! in behalf of myself, as well as of the several  
 “ other tenants of Pollard’s Lands, I do humbly present  
 “ your lordship with this *salchion*, at your first coming  
 “ here, wherewith, as the tradition goeth, Pollard slew  
 “ of old, a great and venomous serpent, which did much  
 “ harm to man and beast: and by the performance of  
 “ this service, these lands are holden.”

N. B. This tenure, and that at Sockburn above-mentioned, are the only two performed this day in the county.

STAMFORD.—County of LINCOLN.

William, Earl Warren, lord of this town in the time of King John, standing upon the castle walls, saw two bulls fighting for a cow in the Castle Meadow, till all the butchers dogs pursued one of the bulls (maddened with noise and multitude) clean through the town. This fight so well pleased the earl, that he gave the Castle Meadows, where the bulls duel began for a common to the butchers of the town, after the first grass was mowed, on condition that they should find a *mad bull*, the day six weeks before *Christmas Day*, for the continuance of that sport for ever.

It is very observable, that here they have the custom, which Littleton, the famous common-lawyer, calls *Borough-English*, i. e. the younger sons inherit what lands or tenements their fathers die possessed of within this manor.

BROOKHOUSE.—County of YORK.

A farm at Brook-House in Langfett, in the parish of Peniston, and County of York, pays yearly to Godfrey Bosville,

Bosville, Esquire, a *snow-ball* at Midsummer, and a *red rose* at Christmas.

This is certainly a most extraordinary tenure, and yet the editor has no doubt but it is very possible to perform the service: he has himself seen snow in caverns or hollows upon the high moors, in that neighbourhood, in the month of June; and as to the *red rose* at Christmas (as he does not suppose that it was meant to have been growing just before it was presented) he thinks it is not difficult to preserve one till that time of the year.—As the things tendered in tenures were usually such as could easily be procured, and not impossible ones, we must suppose that the two here mentioned were redeemable by a pecuniary payment, to be fixed at the will of the lord.

WORTHYNBURY.—County of FLINT.

Richard de Pynelesdon (Pulesdon) holds lands and tenements in Worthynbury, in the Parts of Mailer Says-nec, in the County of Flint, which are held of our lord the king by certain services, and by *ammobragium*\*; which extended to five shillings, when it happened.

EAST

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\* *Ammobragium*. A pecuniary acknowledgment paid by the tenants to the king, or vassals to their lord, for liberty of marrying or not marrying. Thus Gilbert de Maifnil gave ten marks of silver to Henry III. for leave to take a wife; and Cicily, widow of Hugh Pevere, that she might marry whom she pleased. It is strange, that this servile custom should be retained so long. It is pretended that the *amobyr* among the Welsh, the *lyre-wyte* among the Saxons, and the *marçeta mulierum* among the Scots, were fines paid by the vassal to the superior, to buy off his right to the *first night's lodging* with the *bride* of the person who held from him :

## EAST and WEST ENBORNE.—County of BERKS.

The manors of East and West Enborne, in the County of Berks, have this custom; that if a copyhold tenant die, the

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him: but I believe there never was any European nation (in the periods this custom is pretended to exist) so barbarous as to admit it. It is true, that the power above cited was introduced into England by the Normans out of their own country. The *amoby*, or rather *gobr-merch*, was a British custom of great antiquity, paid either for violating the chastity of a virgin, or for the marriage of a vassal, and signifies the price of a virgin. The Welch laws, so far from encouraging adultery, checked by severe fines even unbecoming liberties. The *amoby* was intended as a preservative against lewdness. If a virgin was deflowered, the seducer, or, in his stead, her father, paid the fine. There is one species so singular as to merit attention: if a wife proved unfaithful to her husband's bed, the poor cuckold was obliged to pay his superior five shillings as long as he did *cydgyfgu*, i. e. sleep with her: but if he forbore cohabiting with her, and she *cydgyfgu'd* with her gallant, the fine fell on the offending fair. To cuckold the prince was expiated at a very high rate; the offender was fined in a *gold cup and cover*, as broad as his majesty's face, and as thick as a ploughman's nail who had ploughed nine years; and a *rod of gold* as tall as the king, and as thick as his little finger; a hundred *cows* for every *Cantred*† he ruled over, with a *white bull* with different coloured ears to every hundred *cows*.

† From *centum*, and *tret*, a town or village, an hundred villages: the Welch divide their counties into cantreds, as the English do into hundreds.

the widow shall have her *free bench*\* in all his copyhold lands, whilst she continues sole and chaste (*dum sola est casta fuerit*); but if she commits incontinency, she forfeits her widow's estate; yet, after this, if she comes into the next court held for the manor, *riding backward* upon a *black ram*,

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The recompence to a virgin who had been seduced, is very singular: on complaint made that she was deserted by her lover, it was ordered by the court, that she was to lay hold of the *tail* of a *bull* of three years old, introduced through a wicker-door, and shaven, and well greased. Two men were to goad the beast: if she could, by dint of strength, retain the bull, she was to have it by way of satisfaction; if not, she got nothing but the grease that remained in her hands.

It is singular, that the ancient Britons should make so light of the crime intended, when one nation of our *Celtic* ancestors, the Germans, (but quære whether the Germans were *Celtæ*) inflicted the most cruel punishment on the female offender at least.

The Saxons had their *lyre-wyte*, or *lecher-wyte*, for the same end that the Welsh had their *amobyrr*. The crime is mentioned often in the Saxon laws: once with a cruel penalty denounced against the offender; and a second time, with a strong dehortation from the commission. In general the crime was expiated with money, according to the degree of the person injured. The Indians at this time commute in certain degrees of offence; but oftener punish it with *burning*, and other excruciating deaths.

\* *Free-bench* (*Franc Bench*; *Francus*, i. e. *Sedes libera*), is that estate in copyhold lands, which the wife, being espoused a virgin, hath after the death of her husband for her dower, according to the custom of the manor, &c.

with

with his *tail* in her *hand*, and says the words following, the steward is bound by the custom to re-admit her to her *free-bench*.

“ Here I am,  
 “ Riding upon a black ram,  
 “ Like a Whore as I am;  
 “ And for my Crincum Crancum,  
 “ Have lost my Bincum Bancum;  
 “ And for my Tail’s Game,  
 “ Am brought to this worldly shame;  
 “ Therefore good Mr. Steward let me have my  
 “ Lands again\*.”

BERK-HOLT.—County of SUFFOLK.

The men of Berk-holt, in the county of Suffolk, say, that in the time of King Henry, grandfather of our Lord the present king (Henry III.) they used to have this custom;—that when they would marry their daughters, they used to give to the Lord for licence so to do, two *ores* †, which

\* This is the subject of an amusing number in the *Spectator*.

† *Ores*. Here these *Ores* (which were Saxon coins) are declared to be in value of our money, sixteen pence a piece; but after, by the variation of the standard, they valued twenty-pence a-piece. And this fine for the tenants marrying their daughters (*pro filiabus suis maritandis*) was, without doubt, in lieu of the *marchetto mulierum*, or first night’s lodging with the bride, which the lord anciently claimed in some manors.

The term *marchetto*, which has given occasion to that fiction of folly in the best histories of Scotland, that the lord

which were worth thirty-two pence.—*Beckwith's* edition of *Blount's Fragmenta Antiquitatis*.

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Spectre of the BROKEN, a Singular Phenomenon.

THE Broken is the name of one of the Harz mountains of Hanover in Germany; and is celebrated for reflecting to the eye of a spectator a colossal figure, called the *spectre of the Broken*. The particulars of this extraordinary phenomenon as given by J. L. Jordan, are explained in Gmelin's *Journal of Nature*, published at Gottingen in 1798, and are as follow :

lord had a privilege to sleep with the bride of his vassal, on her wedding night; which has been explained by derivations equally obscene and stupid, is apparently nothing more than the *Merch-ed* of *Howel-Dha*, the *Daughter-hood*, or the fine for the marriage of a daughter. Whitaker's *Hist. of Manchester*, Lib. i. Cap. 8. Sect. 3, Page 265.

On this subject, Blackstone in his *Commentaries*, 2 vol. p. 83, speaks as follows. To lands called Borough English, the youngest son, and not the eldest, succeeds as heir to the father. For which Littleton gives this reason; because the younger son, by reason of his tender age, is not so capable as the rest of his brethren to help himself. Other authors have, indeed, given a much stranger reason for this custom, as if the lord of the fee had anciently a right of concubinage with his tenant's wife on her wedding night; and that therefore the tenement descended not to the eldest, but the youngest son; who was more certainly the offspring of the tenant. But I cannot learn that ever this custom prevailed in England, though it certainly did in Scotland (under the name of *marchetā*, or *marchetō*,) till abolished by Malcom III.

The

The first time I was deceived by this atmospheric phenomenon, I had clambered up to the summit of the Broken, very early in the morning, in order to wait for the beautiful view of the sun rising in the east. The heavens were already streaked with red; the sun was just appearing above the horizon in full majesty, and the most perfect serenity prevailed when the other Harz mountains in the south-west, towards the Worm mountains, lying under the Broken, began to be covered by thick clouds. Ascending at that moment the granite rocks called the Teufelskanzel, there appeared before me, though at a great distance, the gigantic figure of a man, as if standing on a large pedestal. But scarcely had I discovered it when it began to disappear; the clouds sunk down speedily and expanded, and I saw the phenomenon no more. The second time, however, I saw this spectre somewhat more distinctly, a little below the summit of the Broken, and near the Heinrichshöhe, as I was looking at the sun rising about four o'clock in the morning. The weather was rather tempestuous; the sky towards the level country was pretty clear, but the Harz mountains had attracted several thick clouds, which had been hovering around them, and which beginning to settle on the Broken confined the prospect. In these clouds, soon after the rising of the sun, I saw my own shadow, of a monstrous size, move itself for a couple of seconds exactly as I moved; but I was soon involved in clouds, and the phenomenon disappeared.

It is impossible to see this phenomenon, except when the sun is at such an altitude as to throw his rays upon the body in a horizontal direction: for if he is higher the shadow is thrown rather under the body than before it. In the month of September, 1798, as I was making a tour through the Harz, I found an excellent account and explanation of this phenomenon, as seen by M. Haug, on the 23d of May, 1797, in his diary of an excursion to the Broken mountain. I shall therefore take the liberty of transcribing it.

“ After

“ After having been here for the thirtieth time, (says Mr. Haue,) and, besides other objects of my attention, having procured information respecting the above mentioned atmospheric phenomenon, I was at length so fortunate as to have the pleasure of seeing it. The sun rose about four o'clock, and the atmosphere being quite serene towards the east, his rays could pass without any obstruction over the Heinrichshöhe. In the south-west however, towards Achtermannshöhe, a brisk west wind carried before it thin transparent vapours, which were not yet condensed into thick heavy clouds. About a quarter past four I went towards the inn, and looked round to see whether the atmosphere would permit me to have a free prospect to the south-west; when I observed, at a very great distance towards Achtermannshöhe, a human figure of a monstrous size. A violent gust of wind having almost carried away my hat, I clapped my hand to it by moving my arm toward my head, and the colossal figure did the same. The pleasure which I felt on this discovery can hardly be described; for I had already walked many a weary step in the hopes of seeing this shadowy image, without being able to gratify my curiosity. I immediately made another movement by bending my body, and the colossal figure before me repeated it. I was desirous of doing the same thing once more: but my colossus had vanished. I remained in the same position, waiting to see whether it would return, and in a few minutes it again made its appearance on the Achtermannshöhe. I paid my respects to it a second time, and it did the same to me. I then called the landlord of the Broken; and having both of us taken the same position which I had taken alone, we looked towards the Achtermannshöhe, but saw nothing! We had not, however, stood long, when two such colossal figures were formed over the eminence, which repeated our compliments by bending their bodies as we did; after which they vanished. We retained our position, kept our eyes fixed

fixed on the same spot, and in a little time the two figures again stood before us. Every movement that we made by bending our bodies these figures imitated; but with this difference, that the phenomenon was sometimes weak and faint, sometimes strong and well-defined. Having thus had a sufficient opportunity of examining the *spectre of the Broken*, I am enabled to give the following explanation of the curious phenomenon which has so long been the wonder of travellers: When the rising sun, and according to analogy the case will be the same at the setting sun, throws his rays over the Broken upon the body of a man standing opposite to fine light clouds floating around or hovering past him, he needs only fix his eyes steadfastly upon them; and, in all probability, he will see the singular spectacle of his own shadow extending to the length of five or six hundred feet, at the distance of about two miles before him. This is one of the most agreeable phenomena I ever had an opportunity of remarking on the great observatory of Germany."



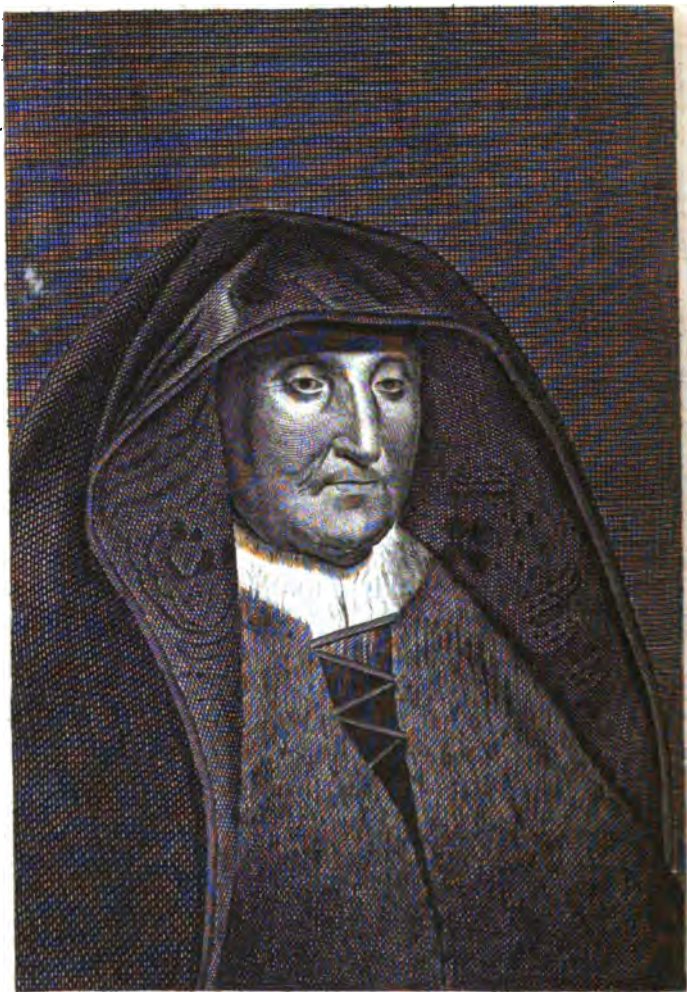
Curious Observations on the SPIDER.

THE spider, of all the domestic insects, has hitherto been most generally abhorred, owing partly to its hideous form, and partly to the idea of its being poisonous. A discovery was, however, made some years ago, by Mr. Quatremere d'Isjonval, adjutant-general to General Pichegru, that this insect is not so useless as it is generally thought. It is known that the state of the atmosphere has a visible effect upon certain animals, and that for instance cats, dogs, frogs, hogs, &c. have a very strong presentiment of every change which is preparing in it. The above-mentioned gentleman has discovered that the spider possesses this quality in a more eminent degree than all other animals.

The spider, says Mr. Q. d'Isjonval, is a more unerring
 Vol. II. No. 17. 5 H indicator,

indicator, of impending changes in the atmosphere than the best barometer. These insects have two different ways of weaving their webs, by which we can know what weather we are to have. When the weather inclines to turn rainy or windy, they make the principal threads, which are the foundation as it were of their whole web, very short, and rather thick; whereas they spin them much longer when fine and warm weather is to be expected. Thence it appears clearly, that the spiders have not only a near but also a distant presentiment of the changes which are preparing in the air. The barometer foretels the state of the weather with certainty only for about twenty-four hours, whereas we may be sure that the weather will be fine twelve or fourteen days, when the spider makes the principal threads of its web long. It is obvious how important the consequences of this infallible indication of the state of the weather must be in many instances, particularly with regard to the operations of agriculture; for which reason it has been frequently lamented, that the best 'barometers,' hydrometers, thermometers, and eudiometers, are principally in the hands of the consumers, and very rarely in those of the planters of the harvest. How fortunate is it, therefore, that provident Nature, amongst other gifts, also has bestowed upon the cultivator of the country such a cheap instrument, upon the sensibility and infallibility of which, with regard to the impending changes in the atmosphere he can rely! The barometers are frequently very fallible guides, particularly when they point to settled fair; whereas the work of the spider never fails to give the most certain information. This insect, which is one of the most æconomical animals, does not go to work, nor expends such a great length of threads, which it draws out of its body, before the most perfect equilibrium of all the constituent parts of the air indicates with certainty that this great expenditure will not be made in vain. Let
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CATHERINE Countess of DESMOND.

the weather be ever so bad, we may conclude with certainty that it will not last long, and soon change for settled fair, when we see the spider repair the damages which his web has received. Those who will take the trouble to watch the operations of this useful insect, will be convinced by experience, that Mr. Q. d'Isjonval deserves the thanks of his contemporaries for the communication of his important discovery, and in future, shew more indulgence to this object of almost general abhorrence than they have done hitherto.

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*The Remarkable Life of CATHERINE, COUNTESS of DESMOND, who lived to the surprising Age of about 140 Years.*

SINCE health is the first of all blessings, and the very source of all pleasure, it is no wonder that the ablest pens have been employed to discover the regions where it grows, the springs that feed it, and the customs and methods by which it is best cultivated and preserved.

For the honour of our climate, it has been observed by ancient authors, that the Britons were longer lived than any other nation to them known; and, in modern times, there have been more and greater examples of this kind, than in any other countries in Europe.

The Countess of Desmond is a striking instance of this kind. She was the daughter of the Fitzgeralds of Drumanagh, in the county of Waterford; and married, in the reign of King Edward IV. James, the fourteenth Earl of Desmond; was in England in the same reign, and danced at court with his brother Richard, then Duke of Gloucester. She was then a widow; for Sir Walter Raleigh says they held her jointure from all the Earls of Desmond since that time. She lived to the age of some years above a hundred and forty, and died in the reign of James I. It appears,

that she retained her full vigour in a very advanced time of life ; for the ruin of the house of Desmond reduced her to poverty, and obliged her to take a journey quite from Bristol to London, to solicit relief from the court, at a time she was above a hundred and forty. She also twice or thrice renewed her teeth ; for Lord Bacon assures us, in his History of Life and Death, *ter per vices dentiisse* ; and in his Natural History mentions, that she did *dentire* twice or thrice, casting her old teeth, and others coming in their place.

Some time in the reign of King James I. a morrice-dance was exhibited in Herefordshire, consisting of twelve persons, whose ages, added together, amounted to twelve hundred years.—It is not such a wonder that so many, in one small county, should live to that age, as that they should be in vigour and in humour to travel and to dance.

“ I have in my life (says Sir William Temple) met with two of above a hundred and twelve ; whereof the woman had passed her life in service, and the man in common labour, till he grew old, and fell upon the parish. But I met with one who had gone a much greater length : it was a man who begged his bread, and was a hundred and twenty-four years old. He told me that he had been a soldier in the Cales’ voyage under the earl of Essex, of which he gave me a sensible account ; that after his return he fell to labour in his own parish ; that he continued to work till a hundred and twelve, when he broke one of his ribs by a fall from a cart, and being thereby disabled, he fell to beg. His food was generally milk, bread, and cheese, and his liquor was procured him from the best spring in the parish. He had a neighbour who was three years older than himself, and had been his fellow-soldier at Cales : but he had been in a good service, and had something to live on now he was old.”



Sir William mentions a few other instances of longevity ; but these we must omit for the present, and shall therefore conclude with observing, that “ the first principle of health and long life is derived from the strength of our race or our birth, which gave occasion to saying, *Gaudeat bene nati* ; let them rejoice that are happily born. Accidents are not in our power to govern : so that the best cares or provisions for life and health, that are left us, consist in the discreet and temperate government of diet and exercise ; in both which all excess is to be avoided, especially in the common use of wine ; whereof the first glass must pass for health, the second for good humour, the third for our friends, but the fourth is for our enemies.”

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A Wonderful Account of the SECT of SAADI, or SERPENT EATERS.

[*From Sonnoni's Travels in Upper and Lower Egypt.*]

THE race of the Psilli, a people who were persuaded that they possessed the power of setting serpents at defiance, of charming them, of making these reptiles follow them at their call, and of curing their bites, has been perpetuated in Egypt. There exists a sect called *Saadis*, from the name of their founder, a saint highly venerated among the Mahometans of that country. This Saadi had an uncle, a great man in Syria. Having one day sent him for some branches of the bushes in the desert, when the lad had cut the faggot, he was very much at a loss to tie it. After a fruitless search, he bethought himself of knotting together several serpents, and with this living cord he bound his faggot. The uncle, delighted with his nephew's acuteness, said to him : “ Well, you may now make your way in the world, for you are more knowing than me.” Immediately on this, the ingenious youth began travelling about the country,

country, charming serpents by his wonderful and supernatural skill; and he had a great number of disciples to whom he communicated his art. His tomb is near Damascus; it is filled with serpents and other venomous animals, among which a person may lie down and sleep, without their doing him the smallest injury.

Such is the superstitious origin of a very numerous sect in Egypt, each individual of which inherits the skill of its founder. Every year they celebrate his festival in a manner analogous to the institution. They march in procession through the streets, each holding in his hand a living serpent, which he bites, gnaws, and swallows piece-meal, making at the same time, frightful grimaces, and contortions. But this festival which I was desirous of seeing, was celebrated only in the summer; and I was extremely anxious to examine closely one of these serpent-eaters. On this occasion M. Forenti and myself had recourse to the same means that we had employed respecting the circumcision (the mediation of a Turk;) and a Saadi came to my apartments, accompanied by a priest of his sect. The latter carried in his bosom a large serpent, which he was continually handling. After having recited a prayer, he delivered it to the Saadi. I observed that the reptile's teeth had been drawn; however it was very lively, and of a dusky green and copper colour.

The Saadi, with a muscular hand, seized the serpent, which entwined itself round his naked arm. He began to be agitated; his countenance changed; his eyes rolled; he uttered terrible cries; bit the animal in the head; and tore off a piece, which we saw him chew and swallow. At that moment his agitation became convulsive; his howlings, redoubled; his limbs writhed; his aspect bore the marks of madness; and his mouth, distended by horrid grimaces, was covered with foam. From time to time he devoured
fresh

fresh pieces of the reptile. Three men in vain exerted themselves to hold him; he dragged them all three round the room, throwing his arms violently about upon all sides, and striking every thing within his reach. To avoid him, M. Forenti and myself were sometimes obliged to cling to the wall, to let him pass and escape his blows. We could have wished the maniac far enough off. At length the priest took the serpent from him; but his fury and his convulsions were not at first appeased; he bit his hands, and his passion continued. The priest clasped him in his arms, put his hand gently upon his back, lifted him from the ground, and recited some prayers. His agitation gradually subsided, and he became completely exhausted, in which state he continued a few moments.

The Turks, who were present at the absurd and disgusting ceremony, were fully convinced of the reality of this religious frenzy. It is certainly true that, whether reality or imposture, it was impossible to express the transports of fury and madness in a more striking manner, or to see a man in a more terrific situation.

The great number of these serpent-eaters had induced some authors; and particularly Dr. Shaw, to believe that they subsisted entirely upon these reptiles. According to this English traveller, there are at Cairo, and in its environs more than four thousand persons who live on nothing but serpents. This, however, is a mistake; serpents are not a dish among the Saadis; and, if in their ceremonies they gnaw a few raw and alive; they are far from making them an article of food.

In Egypt these men are very much respected; but among the Turks of the other parts of the Ottoman empire they are only objects of laughter.

I had an opportunity of conversing with a sheik, or priest of this sect. He was of an open disposition; for, though he

he assured me that several of his fraternity had an extraordinary power over serpents, he confessed that he had not the smallest claim to it; but, on the contrary, was exceedingly afraid of these animals. By him I was informed of some particulars which I shall relate. In order to have serpents ready, upon every occasion, they keep them in their houses; but they previously take the precaution of extracting their teeth. If any person be bitten by a serpent, he runs directly to a Saadi, who mutters a few words over the wound, scarifies it with a razor; and, after having filled his mouth with lemon-juice, sucks the blood from it repeatedly. These men also cure the *serpent's breath*, an appellation given by them to inflammatory pustules which sometimes break out on those who sleep in the open air, with any part of the body uncovered, and which they pretend are caused by the poisonous breath of a serpent. The remedy they employ is oil of sesamum mixed with ceruse, or white lead. With this liniment they rub the pustules, never failing, at the same time, to mutter a few words, without which every remedy would be perfectly ineffectual. Such is the lot of mankind, that there is no nation in the universe, of whose history many pages are not appropriated to superstition.

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*Memoirs and Singularities of the late Mr. CHARLES BIBB,  
better known by the travelling Name of COUNT BIBB.*

THIS eccentric gentleman used to say that he was born on a great rejoicing night in the year 1754, and therefore that his life ought to be but a holiday. His father was formerly an eminent sword-cutler in Newport-street, and has been dead many years. His circumstances being but narrow, it was impossible for him to provide for a volatile son like his son Charles, the subject of the present article. In early life he evinced signs of rising in the graphic art,  
and

and was put apprentice to the noted and laborious Emanuel Bowen, at that time geographer to the king, and the best map-engraver in Europe. But stump engraving (for so the trade call map-work) soon disgusted him, and he left his master, but not until he had debauched his daughter, and he went to sea, where his ingenuity obtained him a considerable degree of credit with his officers. Of his maritime transactions he never said much, but his efforts in drawing sea draughts was above mediocrity, and a little industry would have certainly placed him among the Academicians. Steadiness was not the forte of Charles, perseverance of application was perhaps above his power, and he depended more upon the casual kindness of his friends for his subsistence, for nearly the last thirty years of his life. This precariousness gave him no uneasiness, and when he was asked how he lived, he used to reply, "as it were." In this kind of *as it were* life, he was so well known, that it was hardly possible for him to fall forth in any part of the metropolis, without meeting with some acquaintance ready to become his banker for the expences of the day that was passing over his head. It is, however, but justice to observe here, that he sometimes had an eye to business, for he has been known to design caricatures for Darley of the Strand, and sometimes to work for Tringham under St. Dunstan's church, in Fleet-street.

These labours brought him into the company of Harry Howard, and Jack Oakman, of idle and facetious memory, the first a *bon vivant*, the latter an indifferent, but low post of notoriety, an account of both not being hitherto published, may be soon expected in our miscellany. It is supposed that the author of the farce brought up lately at Covent-Garden, entitled "Raising the wind," took the hint of the extravagant character of Didler, from Count Bibb, whose eccentric behaviour only wanted a reflective

mirror to become the entertainment of a season, and a good dramatic sketch of the whimsical original. He was never displeased with being called the Count, which he was used to observe, was a title that did not descend to him from a musty roll of wealth, but ignoble ancestors. He died on Sunday, the 6th of November, 1803, in rather indigent circumstances, and was buried by his friends in St. John's Westminster.

Exeter, Nov. 16, 1803.

To WM. GRANGER, ESQ.

Sir,

*The following Remarkable Account I have extracted from several papers now before me, and you may rely on its being authentic. By inserting it in your Magazine, you will oblige*

*Your constant Subscriber,—J. Y.*

*Account of a SPANIARD, who can endure, without being incommoded, the greatest degrees of heat, both chemical and natural.*

A NATIVE of Toledo, in Spain, arrived some time since in Paris, and has made different experiments to shew that he is capable of enduring the greatest degrees of heat without being incommoded. This young man is only 23 years of age, and entirely, at least to all appearance, free from any peculiarities which might announce any thing remarkable in the organization of the skin; and, indeed, after examination, one would be rather disposed to conclude there is a peculiar softness, than that any hardness or thickness of the cuticle existed, either naturally or from mechanical causes, which might preclude the effects of heat. Nor is there any circumstance that should indicate that the person had been previously rubbed with any matter capable

ble of resisting the operation of those powerful agents with which he was brought in contact.

This man bathed for the space of six minutes, and without any injury either to his sensibility, or the surface of the skin, his legs in oil heated at 97 degrees of Reaumur, ( $250\frac{1}{4}$  degrees of Fahrenheit\*), and, with the same oil at the same degree of heat, he washed his face and superior extremities. He held for the same space of time, and with as little inconvenience, his legs in a solution of muriate of soda, heated to 102 degrees of the same scale ( $261\frac{1}{4}$  Fahrenheit).

He stood on, and rubbed the soles of his feet, with a bar of iron heated to a white heat; in this state he held the iron in his hands, and rubbed the surface of his tongue with it several times.

He gargled his mouth with concentrated sulphuric and nitrous acids, without the smallest injury or discoloration of the skin; the nitrous acid changed the cuticle to a yellow colour; with the acids in this state he rubbed his hands and arms.

Three glasses of pure water were then brought him, into one of which a few drops of sulphuric acid were infused, and into another a pretty large quantity of marine salt; the third contained only water. The Spaniard drank these three glassfulls, and was able to distinguish perfectly the different flavour of them.

All these experiments were continued long enough to prove their inefficiency to produce any impression.

\* The method used to bring the degrees on Reaumur's thermometer to those on Fahrenheit, is: multiply the degrees on Reaumur by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  and add 32 to the product. The heat of boiling water is 212 degrees of Fahrenheit,

It is said on unquestionable authority, that he remained a considerable time in an oven heated to 65 or 70 degrees Reaumur (178—189 Fahrenheit) and from which he was with difficulty induced to retire, so comfortable did he feel that high temperature.

This young man seems totally uninfluenced by any motive to mislead, and it is said he has refused flattering offers from some religious sectaries of turning to emolument his singular qualities; yet, on the whole, it seems to be the opinion of most philosophical men, that this person must possess some matter which counteracts the operation of these agents. To suppose that nature had organized him differently from all the rest of mankind, would be unphilosophic: by habit he might have blunted his sensibility against those impressions that create pain under ordinary circumstances; but how to explain the power by which he resists the action of those chemical agents which are known to have the strongest affinity for animal matter, is a question difficult to be solved. It has not failed, however, to excite the wonder of the ignorant, and the enquiry of the learned at Paris.



### *The SHIPWRECKED BROTHERS.*

#### *A Wonderful Instance of Fraternal Affection.*

IN the beginning of the sixteenth century, the Portuguese carracks sailed from Lisbon to Goa, a very great, rich, and flourishing colony of that nation in the East-Indies. There were no less than twelve hundred souls, mariners, passengers priests and friars, on board one of these vessels. The beginning of their voyage was prosperous; they had doubled the southern extremity of the great continent of Africa, called the Cape of Good Hope, and were steering their course north-east, to the great continent of India, when  
some



some gentlemen on board, who, having studied geography and navigation (arts which reflect honour on the possessors,) found in the latitude in which they were then sailing a large ridge of rocks laid down in their sea-charts. They no sooner made this discovery, than they acquainted the captain of the ship with the affair, desiring him to communicate the same to the pilot; which request he immediately granted, recommending him to lie by in the night, and slacken sail by day, until they should be past the danger. It is a custom always among the Portuguese absolutely to commit the sailing part, or the navigation of the vessel, to the pilot, who is answerable with his head for the safe conduct or carriage of the king's ships, or those belonging to private traders; and he is under no manner of direction from the captain, who commands in every other respect.

The pilot, being one of those self-sufficient men who think every hint given them from others in the way of their profession derogatory from their understandings, took it as an affront to be taught his art, and, instead of complying with the captain's request, actually crowded more sail than the vessel had carried before. They had not sailed many hours, but just about the dawn of day, a terrible disaster befel them, which would have been prevented if they had lain by. The ship struck upon a rock. I leave to the reader's imagination, what a scene of horror this dreadful accident must occasion among twelve hundred persons, all in the same inevitable danger, beholding with fearful astonishment that instantaneous death, which now stared them in the face!

In this distress, the captain ordered the pinnace to be launched, into which having tossed a small quantity of biscuit, and some boxes of marmalade, he jumped in himself with nineteen others, who with their swords prevented the coming of any more, lest the boat should sink. In

this

this condition they put off into the great Indian ocean, without a compass to steer by, or any fresh water but what might happen to fall from the heavens, whose mercy alone could deliver them. After they had rowed to and fro four days in this miserable condition, the captain, who had been for some time very sick and weak, died; this added if possible, to their misery, for, as they now fell into confusion, every one would govern, and none obey. This obliged them to elect one of their own company to command them, whose orders they implicitly agreed to follow. This person proposed to the company to draw lots, and to cast every fourth man over-board; as their small stock of provisions was so far spent, as not to be able at a very short allowance to sustain life above three days longer. They were now nineteen persons in all: in this number were a friar and a carpenter, both of whom they would exempt, as the one was useful to absolve and comfort them in their last extremity, and the other to repair the pinnace in case of a leak or other accident. The same compliment they paid to their new captain, he being the odd man, and his life of much consequence. He refused their indulgence a great while; but at last they obliged him to acquiesce, so that there were four to die out of the sixteen remaining persons.

The three first, after having confessed and received absolution, submitted to their fate. The fourth, whom fortune condemned, was a Portuguese gentleman that had a younger brother in the boat, who, seeing him about to be thrown over-board, most tenderly embraced him, and with tears in his eyes besought him to let him die in his room, enforcing his arguments by telling him that he was a married man, and had a wife and children at Goa, besides the care of three sisters, who absolutely depended upon him; that, as for himself, he was single, and his life of no great importance: he therefore conjured him to suffer him to supply his place.

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The elder brother, astonished, and melting with this generosity, replied, that, since divine providence had appointed him to suffer, it would be wicked and unjust to permit any other to die for him, especially a brother to whom he was so infinitely obliged. The younger, persisting in his purpose, would take no denial; but throwing himself on his knees, held his brother so fast, that the company could not disengage them. Thus they disputed for a while, the elder brother bidding him to be a father to his children, and recommended his wife to his protection, and as he would inherit his estate, to take care of their common sisters; but all he could say could not make the younger desist. This was a scene of tenderness that must fill every breast susceptible of generous impressions with pity. At last the constancy of the elder brother yielded to the piety of the other. He acquiesced, and suffered the gallant youth to supply his place, who being cast into the sea, and a good swimmer, soon got to the stern of the pinnace, and laid hold of the rudder with his right hand, which being perceived by one of the sailors, he cut off the hand with his sword; then, dropping into the sea, he presently caught hold again with his left, which received the same fate by a second blow; thus dismembered of both hands, he made a shift notwithstanding to keep himself above water with his feet and two stumps which he held bleeding upwards.

This moving spectacle so raised the pity of the whole company, that they cried out, He is but one man, let us endeavour to save his life; and he was accordingly taken into the boat, where he had his hands bound up as well as the place and circumstances could permit. They rowed all that night and the next morning: when the sun arose, as if heaven would reward the gallantry and piety of this young man, they descried land, which proved to be the mountains Mozambique, in Africa, not far from a Portuguese colony.

Thither

Thither they all safely arrived, where they remained until the next ship from Lisbon passed by and carried them to Goa.

At that city, Linschoten, a writer of good credit and esteem, assures us that he himself saw them land, supped with the two brothers that very night, beheld the younger with his stumps, and had the story from both their mouths as well as from the rest of the company.

*A singular ORDER of KING HENRY VIII. for the Supply of Lady Lucy's table, taken from a collection of letters, and state papers, from the original manuscripts of several princes and great personages in the two last centuries. Compiled by L. HOWARD, D. D.*

H E N R Y.

By the King.

**W**E wol and commaunde you to allowe dailly from hensforth, unto our right dere and wel beloved, the Lady Lucy, into her chambre, the dyat faire hereafter ensuyng.

Furst, Every morning at brekefast, oon chyne of beyf at our kechyn, oon chete loff and oon mannchet at our panatrye barr, and a galon of ale at our buttrye barr :

Item, at dyner, a pese of beyf, a stroke of roste, and a rewarde at our said kechyn, a cast of chete bread at our panatrye barr, and a gallon of ale at our buttrye barr :

Item. At after none, a mannchet at our panatrye barr, and half a galon of ale at our buttrye barr :

Item, At supper, a mels of porage, a pese of mutton, and a rewarde at our said kechyn, a cast of chete bread at our panatrye, and a galon of ale at our buttrye :

Item, At after-supper, a chete loff and a mannchet at our panatrye barr, a galon of ale at our buttrye barr, and half a galon of wine at our seller barr :

Item, Ev'ry morning at our wood-yard, four tail shyds and twoo faggots :

Item,





*Oliver Cromwell.*

*Engraved by J. B. Green from the original Picture*



Item, At our chaundrye barr in winter, ev'ry night, oon picket, and four syles of waxe, with eight candells, white lights, and oon torch :

Item, At our picker-house, weekly, six white cuppas :

Item, At ev'ry time of our removal, oon heol carte for the carriage of her stuff.

And these our letters shall be your sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalfe, at all tymes hereafter. Given under our segnet at our manour at Esthampstede, in the 17th day of July, the 14th yere of our reign.

*To the lord steward of our household, the treasurer, comptroller, cofferer, clerks of the greene clothe, the clerks of our kechyn, and all other our hed officers of our said household, and to ev'ry of them,*

*The Remarkable Character of OLIVER CROMWELL may be seen in the following extract from the said state papers.*

*To his highness, the Lord Protector of the common-wealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland.*

*The humble Petition of Margery, the wife of William Beacham, mariner,*

SHEWETH,

**T**HAT your petitioner's husband hath been active and faithful in the wars of this commonwealth both by sea and land, and hath undergone many hazards by imprisonment and fights to the endangering of his life, and at last lost the use of his right arm, and is utterly disabled from future service, as doth appear by the certificate annexed, and yet he hath no more than forty shillings pension from Chatham by the year :

That your petitioner having one only sonne, who is

tractable to learn, and not having wherewith to bring him up, by reason of their present low estate, occasioned by the publique service aforesaid :

Humbly prayeth, That your Highness would vouchsafed to present her said sonne Randolph Beacham, to be scholler in Sutton's hospital called the Charter-house.

OLIVER, P.

We referre this petition and certificate to the commissioners of Sutton's hospital.

July 28, 1655.

*Copy of a Letter sent by Oliver to his Secretary on the above Petition.*

You receive from me this 28th instant, a petition of Margery Beacham, desiring the admission of her son into the Charter-house. I know the man who was employed one day in a very important secret service, which he did effectually to our great benefit, and the commonwealth's. The petition is a brief relation of a fact, without any flattery. I have wrote under it a common reference to the commissioners, but I *mean* a great deal more; that it *shall be done*, without *their debate or consideration of the matter*, and so do you privately hint to \* \* \* \*

I have not the particular shining bauble or feather in my cap, for crouds to gaze at, or kneel to; but I have power and resolution for foes to tremble at: to be short, I know how to deny petitions; and whatever I think proper, for outward form, to refer to any officer or office, I expect that such my compliance with custom shall be also looked upon



as an indication of my will and pleasure to have the thing done. See therefore that the boy is admitted.

Thy true friend,

July 28, 1655.

OLIVER. P.

*Remarkable Instances of FATALITY in two Royal Lines of France and England.*

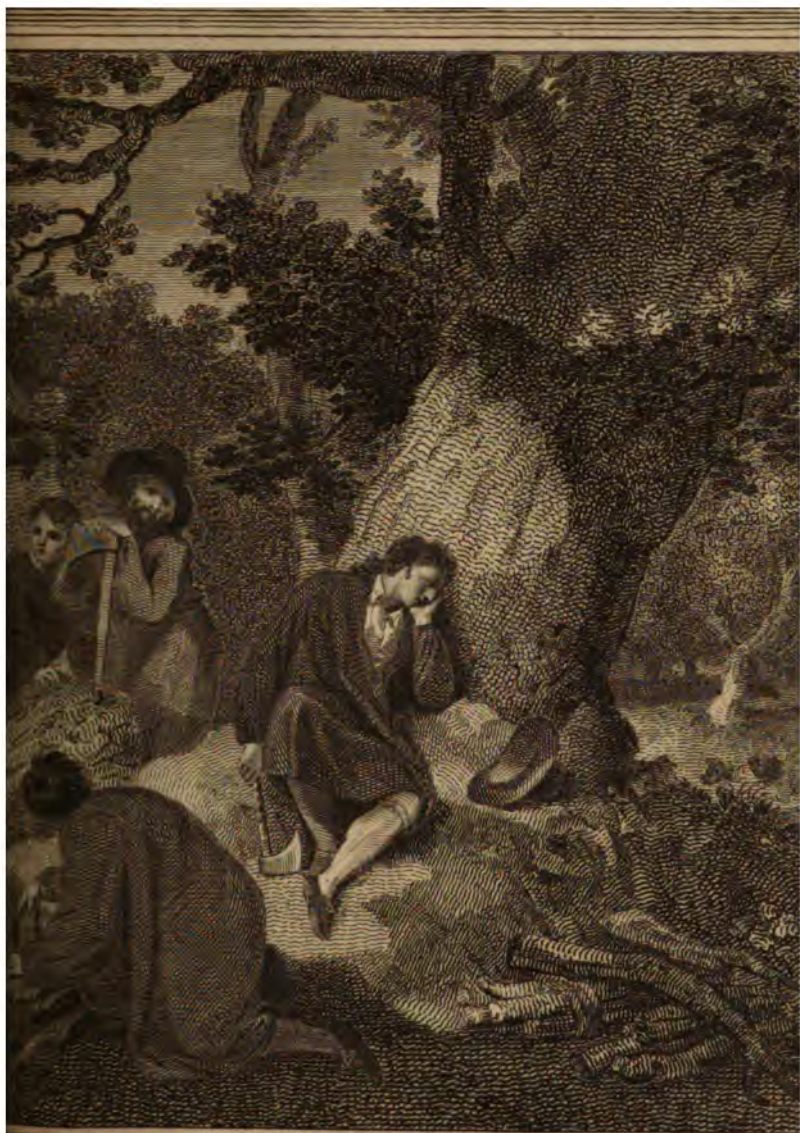
THE successors of Charlemagne, in his French dominions, were examples of an uncommon melancholy destiny. His son, Louis Le Debonnaire, died, for want of food, in consequence of a superstitious panic. His successor, Charles the Bald, was poisoned by his physician. The son of Charles, Louis the Stutterer, fell also by poison. Charles, King of Aquitaine, brother to Louis, met with his death by the ridiculous circumstance of being desperately wounded on the head by a lord, named Albuin, whom he was endeavouring, by way of frolic, to terrify, in disguise. Nor less strange, though more ridiculous was the cause of destruction to Louis III. successor to Louis the Stutterer. This gallant prince, having cast his eyes on a handsome girl, as he was riding through the streets of Tours, pursued her instantly, at full speed: and the terrified girl taking refuge in a house, the king by pursuing her through a low gateway, broke his back, and died. He was succeeded by Carloman, who fell by an ill-directed spear, thrown by his own servant at a wild boar. Charles the Fat perished of want, grief, and poison, altogether. His successor, Charles the Simple, died in prison of penury and despair. Louis the Stranger, who succeeded him, was bruised to death as he was hunting. Lotharius and Louis V. the two last kings of the race of Charlemagne, were both poisoned by their wives, to whose little indiscretions they had been too attentive.

Of the whole line, after a revolution of 230 years, there now remained only Charles, Duke of Lorraine, and he, after an ineffectual struggle in defence of his rights, against the ambitious and active Hugh Capet, sunk beneath the fortune of his antagonist, and ended his life, and the family of Charlemagne, in a lonely prison.

It is an observation of the French historians, that the epithets given to the princes of Charlemagne's race, were almost all, expressive of the contemptuous light in which that family was held by the people over whom it reigned.

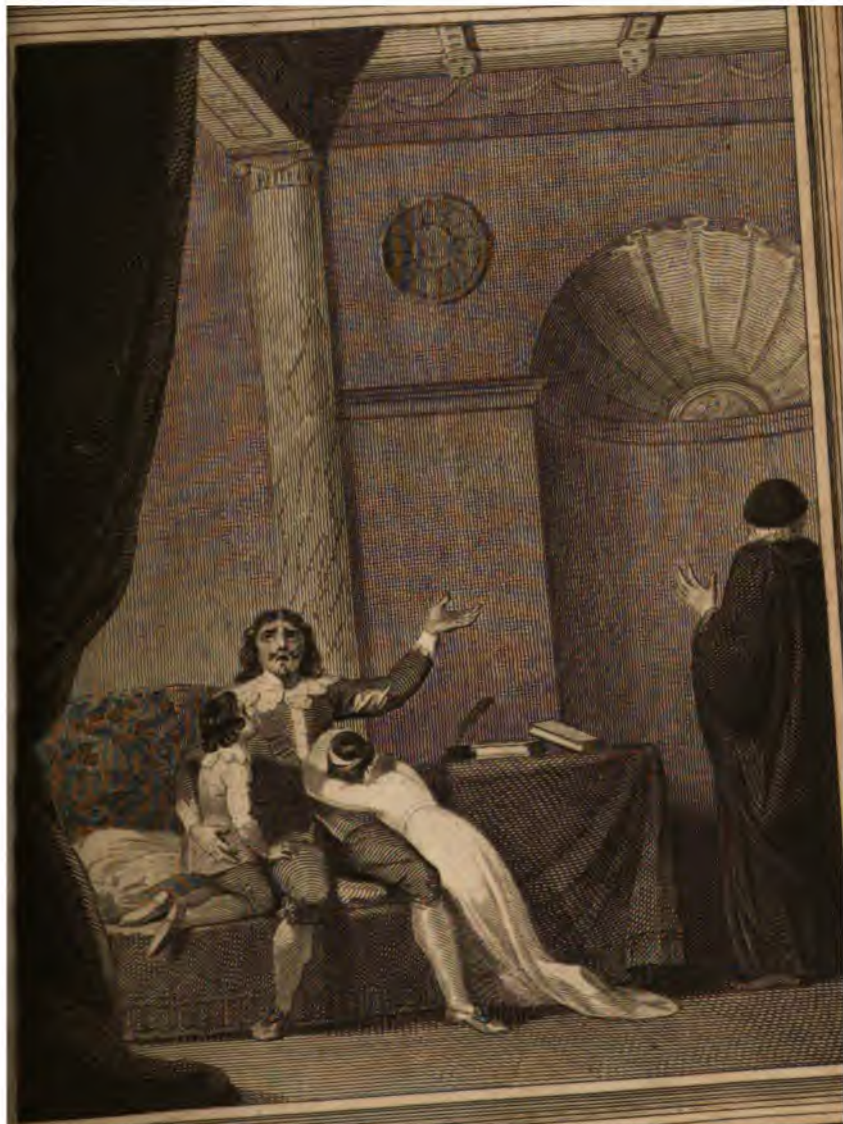
In Great Britain the royal line of Stuart, has been as steadily unfortunate as was ever recorded in history. The misfortunes of this family, have continued with unabated succession, during four centuries. Robert III. broke his heart, because his eldest son Robert was starved to death and his youngest, James, was made a captive. James I. after having beheaded three of his nearest kindred, was assassinated by his own uncle, who was tortured to death for it. James II. was slain by the bursting of a piece of ordnance. James III. when flying from the field of battle, was thrown from his horse, and murdered in a cottage, to which he had been carried for assistance. James IV. fell in Flodden-field. James V. died of grief for the wilful ruin of his army, at Solway Moss. Henry Stuart, Lord Darnley, was assassinated, and then blown up in his palace. Mary Stuart was beheaded in England. James I. and VI. died, as was generally suspected, of poison by Buckingham. Charles I. was beheaded at Whitehall. Charles II. was exiled for many years. James II. lost his crown, and died in banishment. Ann, after a reign, which though glorious, was rendered unhappy by party disputes, died of a broken heart, occasioned by the quarrels of her favoured servants. The posterity of James II. have remained wretched wanderers in foreign lands.

*Remarkable*



CHARLES II. DISGUISED AS A WOODMAN.

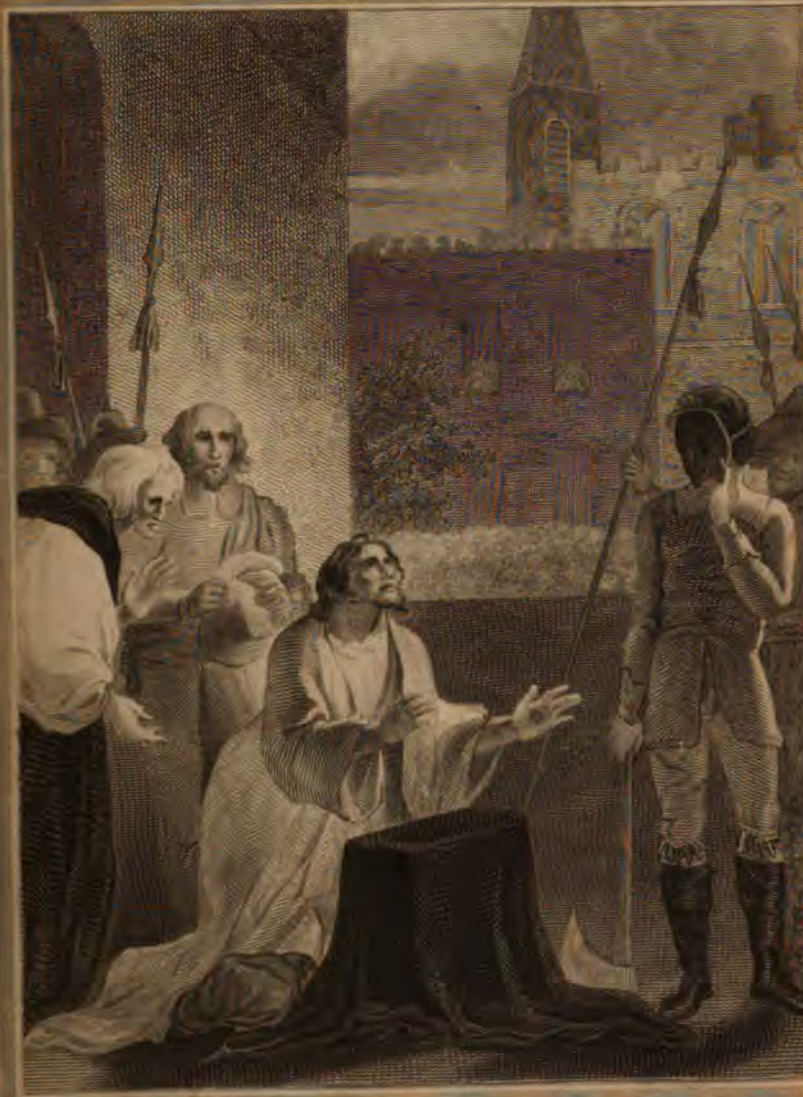
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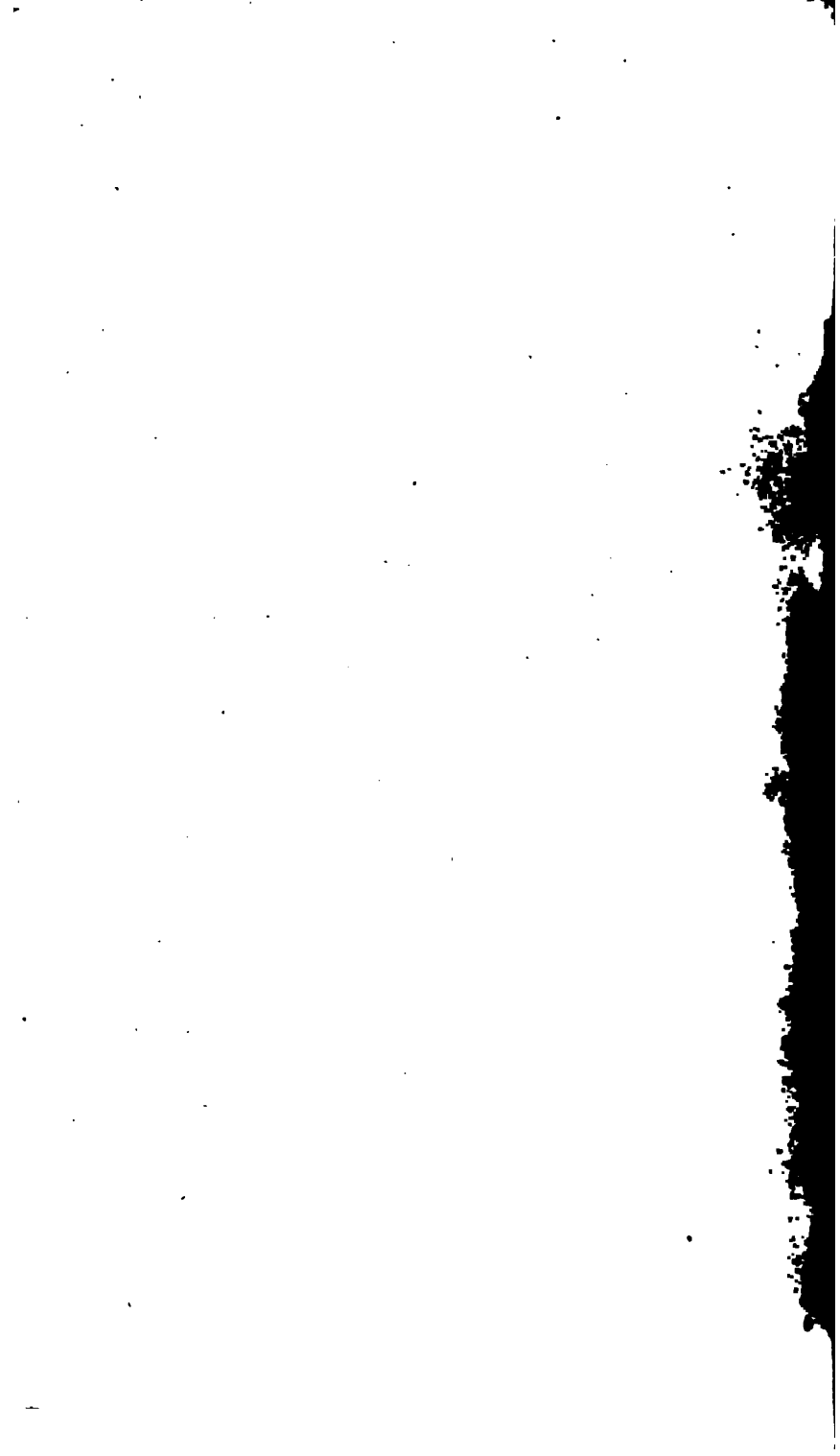


*Charles the First  
parting with his Children.*













London and New York 1811, by J. Stratford 112 Holborn Hill.







DEATH OF LORD DARNLEY.

UN  
MO



*Remarkable Instances of the Natural AFFECTION of ANIMALS.**[By the late Rev. Gilbert White, of Selbourn Hants.]*

**T**HE more I reflect on the natural affection of animals, the more I am astonished at its effects. Nor is the violence of this affection more wonderful, than the shortness of its duration. Thus every hen is, in her turn, the virago of the yard, in proportion to the helplessness of her brood; and will fly in the face of a dog or sow, in defence of those chickens, which, in a few weeks, she will drive before her with relentless cruelty. This affection sublimates the passions, quickens the invention, and sharpens the sagacity, of the brute creation. Thus a hen, just become a mother, is no longer that placid bird she used to be; but with feathers standing on end, wings hovering, and clucking note, she runs about like one possessed. Dams will throw themselves in the way of the greatest danger, in order to avert it from their progeny. Thus a partridge will tumble along before a sportsman, in order to draw away the dogs from her helpless covey. In the time of nidification the most feeble birds will assault the most rapacious. All the hirundines of a village are up in arms at the sight of a hawk, whom they will persecute till he leaves that district. A very exact observer has often remarked, that a pair of ravens, nesting in the rock of Gibraltar, would suffer no vulture or eagle to rest near their station, but would drive them from the hill with an amazing fury: even the blue thrush, at the season of breeding, would dart out from the clefts of the rock, to chase away the kestrel, or the sparrow hawk. If you stand near the nest of a bird that has young, she will not be induced to betray them by an inadvertent fondness; but will wait about at a distance, with meat in her mouth, for an hour together.

The

The flycatcher of the zoology (the *staparola* of Ray) builds every year in the vines that grow on the walls of my house. A pair of these little birds had one year inadvertently placed their nest on a naked bough, perhaps in a shady time, not being aware of the inconvenience that followed. But, a hot sunny season coming on before the brood was half fledged, the reflection of the wall became insupportable, and must inevitably have destroyed the tender young, had not affection suggested an expedient; and prompted the parent birds to hover over the nest all the hotter hours; while with wings expanded, and mouths gaping for breath, they screened off the heat from their suffering offspring.

A farther instance I once saw of notable sagacity in a willow-wren, which had built in a bank in my fields. The bird, a friend and myself observed, as she sat in her nest; but were particularly careful not to disturb her, though she eyed us with some degree of jealousy. Some days after, as we passed that way, we were desirous of remarking how the brood went on; but no nest could be found, till I happened to take up a large bundle of long green moss, as it were, carelessly thrown over the nest; in order to dodge the eye of any impertinent intruder.

A still more remarkable mixture of sagacity and instinct occurred to me one day, as my people were pulling off the lining of a hot-bed, in order to add some fresh dung. From the side of this bed, leaped, with great agility, an animal that made a most grotesque figure; nor was it without great difficulty that it could be taken: when it proved to be a large white bellied field mouse, with three or four young clinging to her teats by their mouths and feet. It was amazing, that the desultory and rapid motions of the dam should not have obliged her litter to quit their hold, especially when they were so young as to be both naked and blind.

To these instances of tender attachment, many more of which might be daily discovered by those who were studious of nature, may be opposed that rage of affection, that monstrous perversion of sagacity, which induces some females of the brute creation to devour their young, because their owners have handled them too freely, or removed them from place to place. Swine, and sometimes the more gentle race of dogs and cats, are guilty of this horrid and preposterous murder. When I hear, now and then, of an abandoned mother that destroys her offspring, I am not so much amazed; since reason perverted, and the bad passions let loose, are capable of any enormity; but why the parental feelings of brutes, that usually flow in one most uniform tenor, should sometimes be so extravagantly diverted, I leave to abler philosophers than myself to determine.

That there is a wonderful spirit of sociability in the brute creation, independent of sexual attachment, the congregating of gregarious birds in the winter is a remarkable instance. Many horses, though quiet with company, will not stay one minute in a field by themselves: the strongest fences cannot restrain them. My neighbour's horse will not only not stay by himself abroad, but will not bear to be left alone in a strange stable, without discovering the utmost impatience, and endeavouring to break the rack and manger with his fore feet. He has been known to leap out of a stable window, after company; and yet in other respects is remarkably quiet. Oxen and cows will not fatten in solitude; but will neglect the finest pasture that is not recommended by society. It would be needless to instance in sheep, which constantly flock together.

But this propensity seems not to be confined to animals of the same species; for I know a doe, still alive, that was brought up, from a little fawn, with a dairy of cows; with  
them



then it goes to the fields, and with them it returns to the yard. The dogs of the house take no notice of this deer, being used to her; but, if strange dogs come by, a chase ensues; while the master smiles to see his favourite secure, by leading her pursuers over hedge, or gate, or stile, till she returns to the cows, who, with fierce lowings and menacing horns, drive the assailants quite out of the pasture.

Even great disparity of kind and size does not always prevent social advances and mutual fellowship. For a very intelligent and observant person has assured me, that in the former part of his life, keeping but one horse, he happened also to have but one solitary hen. These two incongruous animals spent much of their time together in a lonely orchard where they saw no creature but each other. By degrees an apparent regard began to take place between these two sequestered individuals. The fowl would approach the quadruped with notes of complacency, rubbing herself gently against his legs; while the horse would look down with satisfaction, and move with the greatest caution and circumspection, lest he should trample on his diminutive companion. Thus, by mutual good offices, each seemed to console the vacant hours of the other.

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#### Curious CUSTOMS in AFRICA.

*Extracted from Park's Travels in the Interior of Africa.*

**T**HE African native is humane and inoffensive; and, where he has had little intercourse with Europeans, exhibits that kind of being in a state of nature which philosophy loves to develope, and poetry delights in praising. Such of the natives as have been converted to Mahometanism are extremely strict in their religious observances; and the priest here, as in other countries, has a very powerful influence, which cannot be better elucidated than by the following relation of



of what passed at Teesee, respecting a newly married couple.

Tiggitty Sego (the king) held a palaver (so they call a legal court or public meeting) on a very extraordinary occasion, which I attended; and the debates on both sides displayed much ingenuity.—The case was this:—"A young man, a kafir, of considerable affluence, who had recently married a young and handsome wife, applied to a very devout bushreen, or Mussulman priest, of his acquaintance, to procure him saphies for his protection during the approaching war. The bushreen complied with the request; and in order, as he pretended, to render the saphies more efficacious, enjoined the young man to avoid any intercourse with his bride for the space of six weeks. Severe as this injunction was, the kafir strictly obeyed; and, without telling his wife the real cause, absented himself from her company. In the mean time it began to be whispered at Teesee that the bushreen, who always performed his evening devotions at the door of the kafir's hut, was more intimate with the young wife than he ought to be. At first the good husband was unwilling to suspect the honour of his sanctified friend, and one whole month elapsed before any jealousy arose in his mind; but hearing the charge repeated, he at last interrogated his wife on the subject, who frankly confessed that the bushreen had seduced her. Hereupon the kafir put her into confinement, and called a palaver upon the bushreen's conduct. The fact was clearly proved against him, and he was sentenced to be sold into slavery, or to find two slaves for his redemption, according to the pleasure of the complainant. The injured husband, however, was unwilling to proceed against his friend to such extremity, and desired rather to have him publicly flogged before Tiggitty Sego's gate. This was agreed to, and the sentence was immediately executed. The culprit was tied

by the hand to a long stake; and, a long black rod being brought forth, the executioner, after flourishing it round his head for some time, applied it with such force and dexterity to the bushreen's back, as to make him roar until the woods resounded with his screams. The surrounding multitude, by their hooting and laughing, manifested how much they enjoyed the punishment of the old gallant; and, it is worthy of remark, that the number of stripes was precisely the same as are enjoined by the Mosaic Law, *FORTY save one.*"

It may not be improper here, or unacceptable to our readers, to give Mr. Park's account of the mode of courtship adopted by the natives, and of their marriage ceremony:

"If a man takes a fancy to a woman, it is not considered as absolutely necessary that he should make an overture to the girl herself. The first object is to agree with the parents, concerning the recompence to be given them for the loss of the company and services of their daughter. The value of two slaves is common, unless the girl is thought very handsome, in which case the parents will raise their demand very considerably. If the lover is rich enough and willing to give the sum demanded, he then communicates his wishes to the damsel; but her consent is by no means necessary to the match; for if the parents agree to it, and eat a few *kolla-nuts*, which are presented by the suitor as an earnest of the bargain, the young lady must either have the man of their choice or continue unmarried, for she cannot afterwards be given to another. If the parents should attempt it, the lover is then authorized, by the laws of the country, to seize upon the girl as his slave.—When the day for celebrating the nuptials is fixed on, a select number of people are invited to be present at the wedding; a bullock or goat is killed, and great plenty of victuals is dressed for the

the occasion. As soon as it is dark, the bride is conducted into a hut, where a company of matrons assist in arranging the wedding dress, which is always white cotton, and is put on in such a manner so as to conceal the bride from head to foot. Thus arrayed, she is seated on a mat in the middle of the floor, and the old women place themselves in a circle round her. They then give her a series of instruction, and point out with propriety what ought to be her future conduct in life. This scene of instruction, however, is frequently interrupted by the girls, who amuse the company with songs and dances, which are rather more remarkable for their gaiety than delicacy. While the bride remains within the hut with the women the bridegroom devotes his attention to the guests of both sexes, who assemble without doors, and by distributing among them small presents of *kolla-nuts*, and seeing that every one partakes of the good cheer which is provided, he contributes much to the hilarity of the evening. When supper is ended, the company spend the remainder of the night in singing and dancing, and seldom separate until day-break.—About midnight the bride is privately conducted by the women into the hut which is to be her future residence; and the bridegroom, upon a signal given, retires from his company. The new-married couple, however, are always disturbed towards morning by the women, who assemble to inspect the nuptial sheet (according to the manners of the ancient Hebrews, as recorded in scripture), and dance round it. This ceremony is thought indispensably necessary, nor is the marriage considered valid without it."

*The Remarkable Case of JOAN, JOHN and RICHARD PERRY, her two Sons, who innocently suffered for the supposed Murder of William Harrison, G. nt.*

WILLIAM HARRISON, steward to Lady Campden, at Campden, in Gloucestershire, about seventy years of age, went, August 16th, 1660, to receive his lady's rents, which he did; and not returning home that night, gave cause to suspect he was murdered. After some time, John Perry, his servant, gave information before a Justice of Peace, that his brother Richard had robbed and murdered him; and his mother stood by whilst it was done; and that Richard had once before broke open his master's house, and robbed him.—At the following assizes, Joan, John, and Richard Perry, had two indictments preferred against them, one for breaking open the house of Mr. Harrison, and robbing him of 140l. in the year 1659; and the other for robbing and murdering him, August 16th, 1660. Upon the last indictment, the then judge of assize, Sir Christopher Turner, Knt. would not try them, because the body was not found: on the former indictment for the robbery, they pleaded not guilty; but, on people's persuading them, they retracted their plea, and pleaded guilty, begging the benefit of his Majesty's most gracious pardon, and act of oblivion, which was granted them; and although they pleaded guilty to this indictment, being prompted thereto; yet they all at their deaths denied it. Yet at this assize, John Perry persisted in his story, that his mother and brother had murdered his master; and that they had attempted to poison him in goal, for discovering it; so that he durst not eat or drink with them.

And at the next assizes following, Joan, John, and Richard Perry, were, by the Judge of Assize, Sir Robert Hyde,

Hyde, Knt. tried on the indictment of murder; and pleaded not guilty; when John's confession before the justice was proved *viva voce*, by several witnesses, who heard the same. He then told the Court he was mad, and did not know what he had said. The other two, Richard and Joan Perry, declared they were wholly innocent of what they were charged with; that they knew nothing of Mr. Harrison's death, nor what was become of him: and Richard said, his brother had accused others, as well as him, of murdering his master; which the judge bidding him prove, he said, that most of them that had given evidence against him knew it; but naming nobody, nor any body speaking to it, the jury found them all guilty.

Some days after, being brought to the place of execution, which was on Broadway-hill, within sight of Campden, the mother, (being a reputed witch, and to have so bewitched her sons, they could confess nothing whilst she lived) was first executed (strange ignorance and superstition!) after which, Richard, being on the ladder, professed, as he had done all along, that he was wholly innocent of the fact for which he was to die, and that he knew nothing of Mr. Harrison's death, nor what was become of him, and did, with great earnestness, beg and beseech his brother (for the satisfaction of the whole world and his own conscience) to declare what he knew concerning it; but he, with a dogged and surly carriage, told the people he was not obliged to confess to them; yet immediately before his death, he said—"He knew nothing of his master's death, nor what was become of him, but they might possibly hereafter hear."—It is strange that a Judge should order the execution of three persons for the supposed murder of a man, whose body was not found, or heard of at the time of trial, upon the confession of a madman or an enthusiast!

However,

However, Mr. Harrison, some years after, appeared alive, and, in a letter to Sir Thomas Overbury, of Bruton, in Gloucestershire, gave an account how, that very night (August 16th) returning home, after receiving the rents, he was set upon, and forced by several stages to the sea-side, put on board a ship, and carried into Turkey, where he was sold as a slave to a physician, and continued with him a year and three quarters, when his master died; then he made the best of his way to a sea-port, and with great difficulty got on board a Hamburgh ship bound for Portugal, and arrived safe at Lisbon; from whence, by means of an English merchant, he went on board an English vessel, and arrived safe at Dover; and from thence to his own home, to the surprise of all the country. This account was sent with the following letter from Sir Thomas Overbury to Dr. Shirley, who published it.

“ SIR,

“ I herewith send you a short narrative of that no less strange than unhappy business, which some years since happened in my neighbourhood: the truth of every particular whereof I am able to attest; and I think it may very well be reckoned among the most remarkable occurrences of this age. You may dispose of it as you please; and in whatever I can serve you, you may freely command me, as your most affectionate kinsman,

“ and humble servant,

“ THOMAS OVERBURY.”

*Burton, Aug. 2, 1697.*

*Curious*

*Curious and Interesting Account of the ORIGINAL NATIVES of NEW SOUTH WALES, including particularly BOTANY BAY, PORT JACKSON, &c. with the Disposition, Manners, Customs, and Habits, of the Wonderful Inhabitants of that part of the Globe. Communicated by James Thompson, Esq. &c. through the Medium of Mr. George Ryley, of the London Road, St. George's Fields.*

IN order to improve mankind, while we excite their admiration, and to render the present a Work of general utility as well as entertainment, agreeable to our former professions, we mean not only to treat of all extraordinary characters and wonderful events in Europe, but also to extend our researches to the remotest parts of the habitable world; and convinced that every enlightened liberal mind must feel interested for the welfare and happiness of our fellow beings, who live in a precarious state of uncivilized nature, we have been induced to turn our attention to the wandering natives of that distant territory NEW SOUTH WALES, and it is with much pleasure we find ourselves able to gratify our readers with a concise and correct account of the primitive inhabitants of that very extensive, and as yet but slightly explored region.

We have also obtained permission to copy four of the original portraits of the natives, from drawings in possession of James Thompson, Esq. late acting principal surgeon to his Majesty's colony in New South Wales, taken by Monsieur Le Petit, draughtsman of the *Naturalist*, a French ship, arrived a short time ago at Plymouth, from a voyage of discovery.

After the separation of America from this country, the traffic of transporting criminals to any of the Thirteen Colonies was discontinued. In consequence of which, it was

was early in the year 1787, resolved by the British parliament, that all delinquents condemned for transportation, should be banished for the term of their sentence to *Botany Bay*; and, on the 16th of March, in the same year, Commodore Phillip set sail from the Mother-Bank with a squadron of five transports, on board of which were embarked 212 marines, 28 women, their wives, and 17 children; also 828 convicts, including 558 females, and who arrived safe at their destination, on the 18th of January, 1788.

At the very first landing on the shores of *Botany Bay*, an interview with the natives immediately took place. They were all armed; but, seeing the governor approach them with signs of friendship alone and defenceless, they readily returned his confidence, by laying down their weapons, and received him, and his party, with the utmost cordiality.

The next care of the governor, after landing, was, the examination of the bay itself; but no place was discovered in the whole circuit of *Botany Bay*, which seemed at all calculated for the reception of so large a settlement. The governor, therefore, immediately determined to examine *Port Jackson*, which is situated about three leagues to the north of that place; where he had the satisfaction to find one of the finest harbours in the world; in which a thousand sail of the line might ride in perfect security.

Here we think it necessary to correct the erroneous idea which generally prevails in this country, of the criminals being transported to *Botany Bay*; so called, from its abounding with the most beautiful flowers, and curious *botanical plants*, by assuring our readers, that not a single criminal was ever landed at that place.

4th. On the whole of the squadron arriving at *Port Jackson*, a second party of the natives appeared near the place of landing. These also were armed with lances, and at first were



were very vociferous; but the same gentle means which were used before, had the same effect now, and they were easily persuaded to discard their suspicions, and accept whatever was offered. "They were," says governor Phillip, "entirely naked, yet very fond of ornaments, putting the *beads* and *red baize* that were given them on their heads or necks, and seemed much pleased at wearing them."

These paltry delusive baubles they little suspected were to be the price of the fish, the turtle, and other necessities of life their unfrequented shores and native forests had so scantily, though uninterruptedly, produced them; but, alas! they soon found that their fish, their turtle, and kangaroo, were to be monopolized by their new visitors; and they were shortly after frequently drove to the greatest distress for want of food.

Governor Phillip states, that fish makes a considerable part of their subsistence, which they broil and eat scarcely warm, although they sit round a fire whenever they make a meal: and when fish cannot be got, it seems hardly possible that they should be able to procure any animal food; "for," says he, "with the assistance of their guns, the English gentlemen could not obtain, in the last six days, more than were barely sufficient for two meals."

"The natives," continues he, "now avoid all intercourse with the settlement, thinking, perhaps, we cannot teach them any thing of sufficient value to make them amends for our encroachments on their fishing places."

Governor Hunter, who has also published a journal of his voyage, says "that these miserable outcasts, men, women, and children go entirely naked, and seem to have no fixed place of residence, taking their rest whenever night overtakes them. They generally shelter themselves in such cavities or hollows in the rocks, upon the sea shore, as may afford them shelter from the rain; and in order to render their apartment as comfortable as possible, they commonly make a good fire in it before

they lie down to rest, by which means the rock is so heated, as to contain its warmth like an oven for a considerable time, and upon a little grass, which is previously pulled, and dried, they lie down and hurdle together."

" Yet still, even here, content can spread a charm,  
 " Redress the clime, and all its rage disarm;  
 " And as a babe, when scaring sounds molest,  
 " Clings close and closer to the mother's breast.  
 " So the loud torrent and the whirlwinds roar,  
 " But bind them to their native forests more.

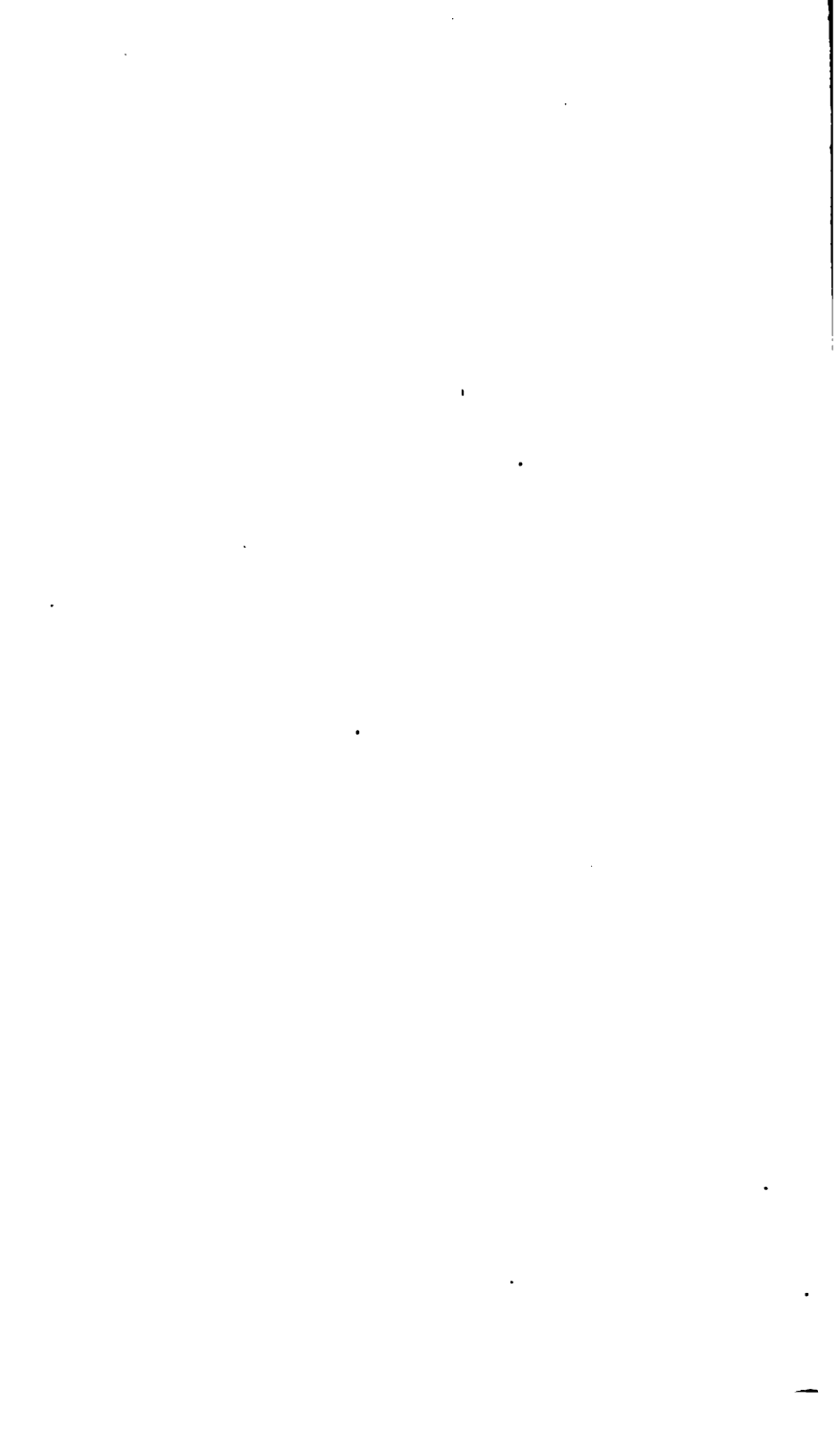
" For in the morning," continues he, " these miserable creatures at day-break sing a hymn or song of joy till sunrise."

*Their Persons.*—The men, in general, are above the middle stature, good figures, and very active. The women are not so tall, but are generally well made. They have broad noses, large wide mouths, and thick lips. They go in all seasons without any covering. They are of a darkly tinged copper colour, but which is made to appear much darker, by their smearing their skins with the fat of such animals as they kill, and afterwards covering themselves with every sort of dirt, and ashes from their fires. Whether this filthy practice is done to fortify themselves against the rain, of which they are very susceptible, we have not been able to learn.

*Dispositions.*—The men are most violent and ungovernable in their tempers, and treat their females with great severity, to which the latter submits with uncommon docility.

Both sexes are generally of a lively turn, and always seem much pleased by our people looking at them when they are dancing, which is chiefly by firelight.

They associate in tribes of many families together, ap-  
 pear



WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



**MACKABARANG,**  
*A NATIVE OF NEW SOUTH WALES,*  
*And known in the Colony by the name of*  
**BROKEN BAY JACK.**

*From a Drawing by Mons<sup>r</sup> le Petit in the possession of J<sup>s</sup> Thomson Esq.*

*Pub. by Alon. Hogg, Paternoster-row, Decr. 1823.*

pear to be among themselves perfectly honest, and often leave their spears on the beach. But, we learn, that some of our civilized savages, the convicts, have, by frequently stealing their spears, &c. learnt them to be a little more cautious. These depredations are, however, on discovery of the delinquents, severely punished.

*Ornaments.*—By way of ornament, the men sometimes hang in their hair the teeth of dogs, the claws of lobsters, &c. which they fasten with gum. They also scarify their bodies, as are delineated in the portrait of *Mackabarang*, and the other figures, which we shall hereafter copy. Some of the men also wear a piece of wood, or bone, thrust through the septum of the nose. When they appear on any hostile occasion, or at their dances, they paint themselves most profusely with white and red earth. Some also wear a fillet tied round the head.

*Employments.*—The employments of the men are in making canoes, spears, nets, &c. and much of their time is occupied in search of food, which is chiefly fish, the land, at all times, affording them but a precarious and very scanty supply. “In these hazardous attempts to obtain subsistence, we frequently see them,” says Governor Hunter, “leap from a rock into the surf, or broken water, and remain a surprizing time under, when they rise to the surface with whatever they have gathered from the sides of the rock, &c. which they throw on shore, where a fire is ready kindled for broiling it; this being their only method of dressing their food, which they eat scarcely warm.”

“In this employment,” adds he, “the women are frequently seen with two or three young children, with one at the breast, in a miserable boat, the highest part not above six inches above the surface of the water, washing almost the edge of a surf, which would frighten an old seaman to come near in a good and manageable vessel.”

*Marriages.*—When the men of New South Wales wish to obtain an alliance with any female, (for we cannot say make love) she is, in case of refusal, taken by force; on which occasion, the most desperate conflict will frequently ensue by their relations and friends belonging to their tribes; in which, the female is often most terribly bruised. Yet, it is not uncommon to see a man with two wives, whom he treats with much severity. Custom, however, seems so to have modelled the female minds, that they submit to this harsh treatment with the most passive resignation.

*Child-Bearing.*—The only preparation made against child-bearing is, when near their time, the women wear two nets, which they make with wonderful ingenuity, round their necks, in one of which is a large piece of bark of the tea-tree, neatly folded up to lay her infant on. The inside layers of the bark are very soft, and nothing the country affords can be better calculated for the purpose. The women do not appear to suffer any great inconvenience while in this state, and they all seem best pleased with having boys.

One of the native women has lately had two children by one of the convicts, of the name of Knight. The children were born extremely white, which was so contrary to the wishes of the mother, that she used every means to blacken them. Her efforts, however, like attempting to wash the blackamoor white, proves labour in vain.

*Burials.*—They put their dead for some time in a fire, after which, they are laid at length in a grave, dug very clean out, the bottom being very carefully covered with long grass or fern, the body is put in, and covered over with long grass, and the grave is then filled up with earth, and the mould raised above it, as in England. Whenever a woman died with a child at her breast, the mother was put

put into the grave with her fishing-tackle, &c. and the child laid upon her covered over, and the grave attended till the cries of the infant ceased; but this savage custom was instantly abolished by our people, near the settlement, Whether this was done with an idea to prevent the child perishing after the death of the mother, for want of proper nourishment, we are unable to account.

*Religion.*—The natives have no idea of the Supreme Being, nor of any religious worship; yet they seem not entirely ignorant of a future state, as they say “the bones of the dead are in the grave, and the body are in the clouds,” where they suppose they are to go, and enjoy plenty of kangaroo, and fish, which, in their idea, is the summit of happiness.

Such are the manners, customs, and habits, of these unenlightened but inoffensive people; and let it be remarked, that that abominable habit, so common with Europeans, and which, of all others, is the most dangerous and destructive to good order and well being of society, they are not the least addicted to, namely, that of getting intoxicated; they having, one and all, the greatest aversion to taste any strong beverage, or spirituous liquors.

We have omitted to state that the seat of government of this vast territory is at *Sydney Cove*, in Port Jackson, where Philip Gidley King, Esq. now resides as governor, with so much honour to himself and humanity to the unfortunate convicts and natives, as well as attention to the interest of all the settlers, that he may justly be considered more as the father of a numerous family, than the legislator of an extensive colony. Such also are the familiar and conciliating manners of his lady and himself to his brother officers, their house being at all times open to them and their families, that sociable happiness prevails, and in some degree renders their great distance, and long absence from friends and native country, supportable.

It

It must also give great pleasure to all advocates of humanity, at learning that through the indefatigable and humane attention of the governor, the officers, and their ladies, to all the natives who can be induced to visit Port Jackson, many of them now frequent the colony, and take up their abode at the governor's, and other houses, whereby there can be little doubt entertained of their becoming familiar with our language, manners, &c. and consider us as their friends. Several children of the natives are now educating at Port Jackson.

The Rev. Mr. Marsden, chaplain to the colony, has a boy of one of the natives, which he has brought up, and intends educating, who writes a good hand, speaks our language with great fluency, sings hymns, and has a good ear for music. In short, from the account we have received, this child seems susceptible of all the mental endowments that can form the scholar and gentleman.

There are also many other children of the natives equally docile and promising, who receive their education from the governor's lady, and are brought up in the officers' families.



### *Cases of IMMODERATE THIRST.*

A VERY curious instance of immoderate thirst apparently depending on a peculiarity of temperament, or what is called idiosyncrasy, some time since occurred in a woman then living at Paris, whose case was first published by M. Besséjon de la Chassagne, in the Paris journal of May 1, 1719, and is recorded at greater length in vol. III. of the Medical Facts and Observations, the particulars of which I will relate.

Mr. Besséjon de la Chassagne was priest of the parish of St. Laurant in Paris, where the woman resided, and took great pains to examine into the particulars of this extraordinary



nary case, which he has related in a very accurate manner; but the value of these facts depended on their authenticity; and, as it was possible that the writer of this letter might have been deceived by the patient or her friends, and had stated things not strictly true, Dr. Simmons, editor of the *Medical Facts and Observations*, requested some of his medical friends at Paris to enquire into the truth of the case. The first communication he received on the subject was from M. Tenon, professor of anatomy, and member of the Royal Academy of Surgery, at Paris; but, as he employed another person to visit the woman, some doubts might still arise, whether he was not imposed on. She was afterwards seen by a medical friend of mine, at that time studying physic at Paris; but he, having been with her only a short time, the truth of the facts still rested on the assertion of the woman. At length the ocular testimony of some intelligent men established the authenticity of the case as follows: The woman was examined by the Philomathical Society, at Paris, and passed a day with them. Their report puts the truth of the case beyond a doubt. At the time of this examination she was forty years old. From her early infancy she had a very considerable thirst; and, from the age of four or five years to that of sixteen or eighteen, she drank one of our pailfulls of water, that is, ten quarts, (or Paris pints), each weighing two pounds (of sixteen ounces) daily: after that time, while she was single, she drank three pails full of water a day; after she was married, which was at the age of 22, two pails full were sufficient for her, till she was delivered of her first child; she then returned to her former quantity of three pails full, and continued it till after the birth of her fourth child; since that period, she drank only two pails full in the twenty-four hours, and has had eleven children in ten lyings-in. She drinks neither coffee, wine, nor spirituous liquors. This woman

turers were in momentary danger of death. At length, about eight o'clock the next morning, they were rescued from their perilous situation by the large bark of Antony Bazol, about ten Italian miles from the harbour of Veneda in Istria. The balloon, being given to the wind, flew over the mountain Offero, and probably went into Dalmatia. The Aëronauts came in the same ship, with their hands and feet entirely benumbed with cold, to Pola, a port in Istria, where they remained four days to recover from their fatigues. On the 24th they arrived in Venice. Their aerial voyage from the coast of Romagna to Istria is a distance of 120 English miles. Had it not been for the brave seaman, Antony Bazol, who very ably steered his ship to save them, they would, no doubt, have been buried in the waves. They were received at Venice with the greatest hospitality, and do not appear to have any desire to make another aerial excursion at midnight."

*An Account of MOTHER DAMNABLE, late of Kentish Town,*

*[Extracted from Caulfield's Memoirs of Remarkable Persons.]*

OF this shrew, thus denominated, whose real name has not reached posterity, nothing farther is known than the following lines, annexed to the original Portrait, inform us, which bears the date of 1676, of which an unique impression, as it is supposed to be, is in the possession of J. Brindley, Esq. of the Stamp-Office.

### **Mother Damnable.**

- " You've often seen (from Oxford tipling-house),
- " Th' effigies of Shipton fac'd Mother Loufe,
- " Whose pretty pranks (tho' some they might excel).
- " With this old trot's ne'er gallop'd parallel.

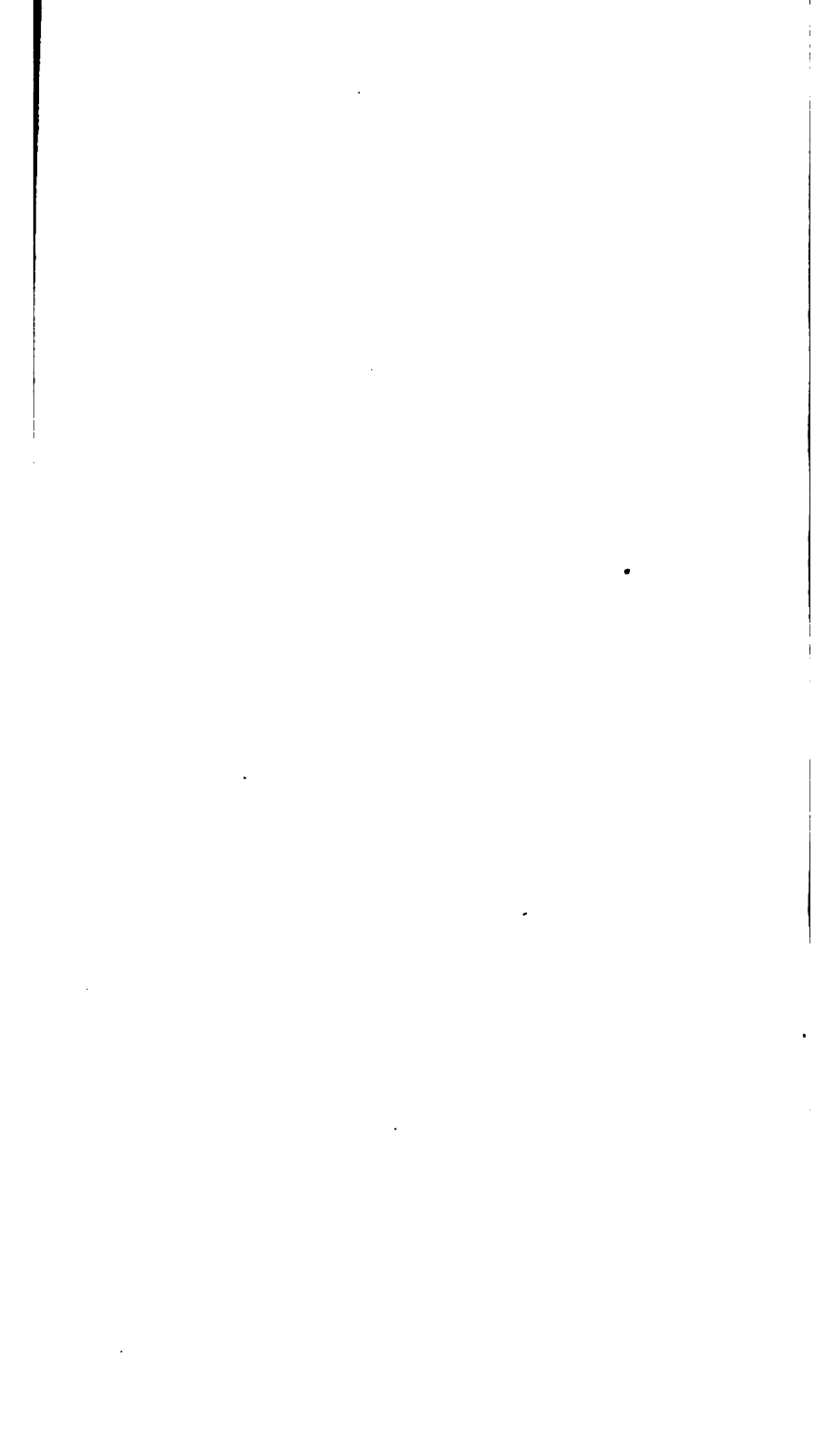
" 'Tis



*Mother Damnable*  
*of KENTISH TOWN*  
Anno 1676.

*From a Unique Print in the Collection of J. Bindley Esq.*

*Published by I. Cautfield 1793.*



" 'Tis mother Damnable ! that monstrous thing,  
 " Unmatch'd by Mackbeth's wayward women's ring,  
 " For cursing, scolding, fuming, flinging fire  
 " I'th' face of madam, lord, knight, gent, cit, squire ;  
 " Who (when but ruffled into the least pet)  
 " Will cellar-door key into pocket get.  
 " Then no more ale : and now the fray begins !  
 " Ware heads, wigs, hoods, scarfs, shoulders, sides, and shins ;  
 " While these dry'd bones in a Westphalian bag,  
 " (Through th' wrinkled weasan of her shapeless crag)  
 " Sends forth such dismal shrieks, and uncouth noise,  
 " As fills the town with din, the street with boys ;  
 " Which makes some think, this fierce she dragon fell  
 " Can scarce be match'd by any this side Hell.  
 " So fam'd both far and near is the renown  
 " Of Mother Damnable of Kentish Town.  
 " Wherefore this symbol of the cats we'll give her,  
 " Because so curst a dog would not dwell with her."

It is pretty certain she is the very person who occasioned the sign of the *Mother Redcap*, not far from town on the road to Hampstead, more especially as the house that bears that sign, and another, which is supposed to have been set up in opposition, of the sign of *Mother Blackcap*, were the only two dwellings standing near that place, within the memory of many now living ; but which spot is now covered, like most other parts round London, with extensive buildings.

*A Singular Account of J. SMITH, ESQ. father of a gallant Sea Officer of great fame, who was imprisoned in France last War, and was lately distinguished at the Battle of Acte.*

THIS gentleman is now about 78, was born at Dover, and was *aid-du-camp* to a general officer at the battle of Minden, many years ago; which general officer underwent a public trial, and was disgraced, as every one knows. Since which time he has lived, at Dover and London alternately, on his patrimony, at Seven Oaks and Portsmouth. His half-pay, and a place he had at the court of St. James's, the pay of which he now receives, but does no duty, being put on the superannuated list by her Majesty's orders. His wife died about 1801, at Bath, where she had lived several years. His son, the gallant Sir Sidney Smith, went a little while before her death to see her, and passed some days there; she had got most wonderfully corpulent just before her death, and was supposed to be dropsical. Mr. S. when in possession of all his faculties, was a good father, neighbour, and friend to the poor; and when applied to even by those whom he did not know, would try his utmost to serve them. He erected some whimsical buildings at Dover, just under the rock or chalky cliff of Dover Castle, close to the sea side, under Queen Elizabeth's pocket-pistol, and has boat-tops reversed and pitched, instead of tiles, lead, slating, or other covering; there are several of them of this shape; they are very convenient and comfortable, and consist of kitchen, dining-room, and a drawing-room large enough to breakfast fifty people, bed chambers round Prospect Tower, stables, brewery, piggery, a well of spring water that works by wind like a mill by sails, &c. and though his garden-mould looks like old mortar got together from some building, they are amazingly fertile, producing excellent turnips, cabbages, fruit,

fruit, flowers, &c. Some of the stair-cases to the bed-rooms shut up, so that no one can get from below into the bed-rooms, unless they know where the staircase is, nor can they be seen. He has caused rooms in the solid cliff to be excavated, of a large size, one as big as a little chapel, which are very cool in summer, but damp. He keeps a great many pigeons, having a very excellent place for that purpose fixed to the cliff a great height. The first people of consequence who live at, or near, or who come to Dover, go to visit Mr. S. or see his extraordinary buildings, which is called by some "Smith's Folly." The old gentleman gets superannuated of late, forgets names and faces. His sister, Mrs. D——me, a widow, keeps house for him at Dover, and is a very charitable worthy lady, a few years older than Mr. S. but possesses all her faculties. He has two daughters and a son, who are children, and lived with him at this place till lately; the eldest girl married a gentleman in the army, and is gone to the Indies with him. The old gentleman used to like a game at whist, a droll story, and a glass of wine, till lately and since he parted with his wife, when able. He has seen a great deal of service in various ways; he has been likewise eccentric in religious opinions, and formerly was the only person of his time who excelled in playing a solo on a wooden spoon. He has family prayers every day, and all the servants attend, and by way of remuneration for their attending prayers, he gives them the liberty of shewing the place to strangers, provided they don't ask to see "the Folly," which produces the servants something considerable in a year, in addition to their wages, by way of vails. His sons call frequently on him when in England, but he gets now childish and helpless. He has ever been an eccentric character, and only wants that change, sooner or later, all must undergo; and which, from his age, &c. cannot be far distant.

G. W.

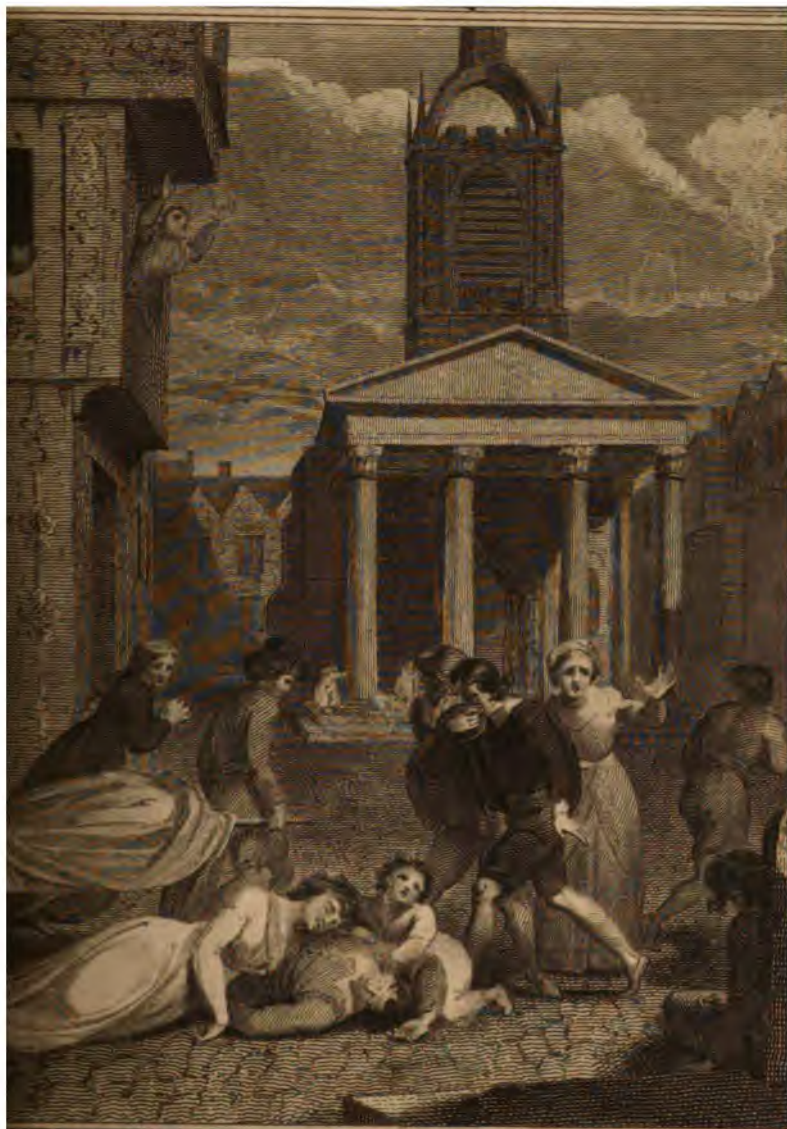
*The*

*An Authentic Account of that dreadful Calamity the PLAGUE, which happened in the Years 1664, and 1665, in the reign of Charles II. by which the City of London was reduced to the utmost Distress, and it was supposed One Hundred Thousand Lives were swept away. Giving a particular Account of the Nature of that Wonderful Disorder, and how it was brought to London, together with the Conduct of his Majesty, the Lord Mayor, and the Nobility, on that awful Event.*

**I**N the year 1663, the plague had made violent ravages in Amsterdam, and Hamburgh, timely notice of which being communicated to our government, several councils were held with great privacy to concert measures for preventing its importation; but all methods proved ineffectual; for about the close of the year 1664, it was brought over to London in some goods exported from Holland. These goods were first opened at a house in Long-Acre near Drury Lane; where two Frenchmen catching the distemper, died. This immediately communicated the disorder to other houses in that neighbourhood, and infected the parish-officers who were employed in burying those who died of it. Another Frenchman, who lived in the neighbourhood, being apprehensive of fatal consequences, removed into Bearbinder-lane, where, having before received the infection, he soon died, and thus the plague first commenced in the city of London. A severe frost, however, happening to set in this winter, the progress of the disorder was stopped till the month of March 1665, when its virulence revived, and many people died of it in different parts of the city.

Before we proceed to relate the dreadful consequences, which at this time ensued from the plague, it may not be improper





*The fatal effect of*  
**THE PLAGUE OF 1663.**

32

improper to premise the usual symptoms of infection, which are thus enumerated by Dr. Hodges, who lived in London at that fatal time, and attended patients in all stages of the disorder.

First, a horror, vomiting, delirium, dizziness, head-ach, and stupefaction; then a fever, palpitation of the heart, bleeding at the nose, and a great heat about the præcordia: but the signs more peculiar to the pestilence were those pustules which the generality of people called blains, buboes, carbuncles, spots, and those marks called tokens. The buboes were hard painful tumors, with inflammation and gathering upon the glands, behind the ears, arm-pits, and the groin. These tumors, at their first appearance, were hard, and the event of the disorder was prognosticated from their sudden or slow increase, from their genuine or untoward suppuration, and from the virulence of their contents. The pestilential spots appeared chiefly in the neck, breast and back, and were not to be easily distinguished from flea-bites. The genuine pestilential characters, commonly called tokens, as being the forewarnings of death, were minute distinct blains, which had their origin from within, and rose up in protuberances, sometimes as small as pins-heads, and at other times as large as a silver penny, having the pestilential poison chiefly collected at their bases; gradually tainting the neighbouring parts, and reaching the surface, as the configuration of the vessels and pores favoured their spreading. They were also derivable from external causes, as from the injuries of air, when the pestilential particles were pent up and condensed; and by those means their virulence was so increased, that when they reached the nobler organs life was immediately extinguished.

The physicians, in their treatment of the sick, all agreed in throwing out the pestilential malignity as soon as possible by alexipharmics, and to these, as soon as the belly was

loosened, recourse was immediately had. In extremity, some used mineral preparations, as *sulphur auratum*, *aurum vitæ*, &c. in order to drive out the pestilence by mere violence. For external applications, they used blisters and cataplasms; the buboes were opened by incision; and the scab or crust formed by the virulent humour was chiefly got off by actual caustics; nor were the blisters, ulcers or incisions, suffered to heal until the malignity of the disease was spent. But such was the delusive appearance of this pestilence, that many patients died who were thought to be in a fair way of recovery; while many others, who were given over for lost, happily survived.

As soon as the magistrates of London discovered that the contagion had spread itself into several parishes, in order to stop the farther communication of the disorder, an order was issued by the lord-mayor for shutting up all infected houses; and that these houses might be more easily known, red crosses were painted on the doors, with this inscription, "Lord have mercy upon us." Watchmen were also placed before them, to convey necessaries and medicines into the confined families, and to restrain them from coming abroad until forty days after their recovery.

Dogs and cats, being domestic animals, and often running from one house to another, were supposed to convey the noxious effluvia in their fur or hair; in consequence of which, by the advice of physicians, the lord-mayor and common-council issued an order, that all those animals should be immediately killed; and an officer was appointed for that purpose. Every possible endeavour was also used to destroy rats and mice, on the same account by poison. It was computed that, in consequence of this order, 40,000 dogs, and five times as many cats, were destroyed in the space of one week. Notwithstanding every precaution was used that could be devised, the infection continued to spread  
through

through the months of May and June, with greater or less severity. About the latter end of June above twenty parishes were infected, and their majesties with the royal family, removed from Whitehall to Hampton-court. This precedent was followed by all the nobility, gentry, and more wealthy tradesmen, who immediately retired into the country; and in the broad streets leading out of town, nothing was to be seen but waggons and carts loaded with goods and servants; coaches full of families, and horsemen, all hurrying away in the greatest confusion.

Many families who were unprovided with this resource, laid up a store of provisions, and shut themselves up in their houses so carefully, as not to be heard of or seen, till the plague ceased. Among these were several Dutch merchants, who kept their houses like garrisons, suffering no one to come in or go out; and thus happily preserved themselves from the infection. Many merchants and ship-owners also shut themselves up on board ships, and as the plague increased, removed down the river; nor was it known the disorder reached any ships beyond Deptford. While the better sort of people had various resources to avoid the dreadful consequences of this fatal distemper, the poorer sort were entirely exposed to it; but in order to mitigate the weight of affliction as much as possible, the lord-mayor, (Sir John Laurence) aldermen and sheriffs, with many of the common council, published their resolution not to quit the city; but to be always ready at hand to preserve order, and do justice on all occasions. One of his lordship's principal concerns was, to see the regulations for the freedom and good supply of the markets properly observed; for which purpose either he or the sheriffs attended vigilantly on horseback every day. The necessity of going to market greatly contributed to spreading of the disorder, as there the people caught the infection one of another, and it was suspected

that even the provisions were tainted. All imaginable precautions were, however, used in these negotiations; for customers took the meat from off the hooks themselves, that they might not receive it from the butcher; and for his security dropped their money into pans of vinegar, always carrying small money with them that they might receive no change.

In the first week of July, the bills of mortality rose to 725, the next week to 1089, the third week to 1843, and the next week to 2010. In the months of August and September the disorder had so universally spread itself over the city, that three, four, or five thousand died in a week. The deaths one week amounted to 8000, and were believed to extend to 10,000; for the registers were in such confusion that an accurate account could not possibly be preserved.

The amazing number of deaths increased so fast, that the church-yards became too confined to contain the bodies, and the usual modes of interment were no longer observed. Large pits were dug at Holywell-mound and other outlets of the city, to which the dead were brought in carts, collected by the ring of a bell, and the doleful cry of "Bring out your dead." The bodies were put into the carts, with no other covering than rugs or sheets tied round them, and were thrown into the pits in promiscuous heaps. For a farther representation of the manner of executing this melancholy business, the reader is referred to a plate, given in Spencer's new History of England, a work universally admired for its impartiality.

All trade was at this time at a stand, the shops were shut up, and every day had the appearance of a solemn sabbath. Few people were to be found in the streets, and no carriage of any kind to be seen, but such as were employed for immediate acts of necessity. Grass grew in the Royal Exchange, and in most of the public streets; and Whitechapel might be mistaken for a green field. Those families who  
carried

carried on a small retail trade, or subsisted by labour, were supported by charity, which was bountifully extended by those who had power to bestow it. The king contributed a thousand pounds a week; and Dr. Sheldon, archbishop of Canterbury (who remained at Lambeth the whole time) besides his own benefactions, procured great sums to be remitted from the dioceses under his jurisdiction. The wealthy citizens of London, who had fled into the country, did not forget those they had left behind; large sums were sent up by them to the magistrates, as well as from the trading towns in the remotest parts of England. And it is said, that for several weeks together, the lord-mayor and aldermen, besides private charities, were enabled to bestow on the poor, 100,000. a week.

In order to try every expedient that might be thought possible for dispersing the contagion, large fires were ordered to be made in the public streets. Two hundred chaldrons of coals were immediately applied for this purpose, and fires were made at the Custom-house, Billingsgate, and Bridge-foot, Three Cranes, Queen-hithe, Bridewell-gate, the corner of Leadenhall, and Gracechurch streets: at the north and south gates of the Royal Exchange, Guild-hall, Blackwell-hall, at the lord-mayor's house in St. Helen's, at Bow Church, and at the west end of St. Paul's Cathedral. These fires were continued for three successive days; but so little did they answer the purpose wished for and expected, that the following night, from whatever cause it might proceed, was the most fatal of the whole; for upwards of 4000 persons expired that evening. This circumstance threw the surviving people into the most extravagant despair, apprehending that in a few days the living would not be sufficient to bury the dead. In these apprehensions, however, they were happily mistaken, for the disease having got to its height began now gradually to decline. Though the numbers of  
the

the infected were not observed to lessen, yet the disorder having greatly lost its strength, more in proportion recovered, and the deaths sensibly diminished. When this was perceived, the dread that had invaded the minds of the people began to wear off, which contributed greatly to their recovery; and whereas in the height of the disorder, it usually killed persons in two or three days, and not above one in five recovered; it now did not kill under eight or ten days, and not above two in five miscarried; so that in a short time a dawn of health appeared as suddenly as it was unexpected.

In the beginning of November the face of affairs was quite altered; though the funerals were still frequent, yet the citizens began to return without fear; and in December they crowded back to the city as fast as they had fled from it in the spring and summer. Those who were cautious took great care in scouring their houses; and many costly things were burnt to ashes, which not only answered their particular purposes, but also filled the air with grateful smells that were serviceable to their neighbours.

The magistrates of London and Westminster caused the bedding and goods of the infected houses to be well washed, dried and aired, the rooms to be new white-washed, and the church-yards to be covered two feet thick with fresh earth to prevent as far as possible the revival of the disorder.

The winter gave the most effectual check towards suppressing this dreadful disorder which had so long a time raged with unabated violence, and though some remains of the contagion appeared in the succeeding spring, yet it was no more than could be easily conquered by medicine; and thus the city happily got rid of the infection, and was again restored to perfect health.

Dr. Baynard, an ingenious and experienced physician at that time, observed, that, during the progress of this mercilefs pestilence, there was such a general calm and serenity  
of



of weather, as if both wind and rain had been expelled the kingdom; and that for many weeks together not the least breath of wind could be discovered.

The number of burials this year, computed by the bills of mortality, were 97,306, of which 68,596, were attributed to the plague; but this estimate must certainly have been very defective, it being the general opinion of most people at that time, that the plague destroyed at least one hundred thousand. It is very remarkable, the parish of St. John the Evangelist in Watling-street, according to the yearly bill, was the only one that remained quite exempt from the infection.

During the time of this dreadful calamity, all foreign trade with London was almost extinct, as no port in France, Flanders, Spain, or Italy, would admit our ships, or correspond with us; the Turks, indeed, and the Grecian Isles, to whom the plague was familiar, were not so scrupulous. The Flemings and Dutch made great advantage of this circumstance, by buying good in those parts of England that had not received the infection, carrying them home and then exporting them again as their own.

In our next number we shall be able to present to our numerous readers a full and authentic account of that other dreadful calamity which immediately succeeded the above, viz. **THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON**, in which will be found many curious particulars, from authentic records and documents not generally known.

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Account of Wonderful DWARFS and GIANTS.

IT was supposed by the ancients, that a race of men of diminutive stature composed a peculiar nation. Homer gives an account of a pigmy nation contending with the granes; and however the poet might be supposed to exaggerate,

gerate, Athenæus has gravely attempted to confirm this. If we attend to these, we must believe that in the internal parts of Africa, there are whole nations of pigmy beings, not more than a foot in stature; who continually wage an unequal war with the birds and beasts that inhabit the plains in which they reside. Some of the ancients, however, and Strabo in particular, have supposed all these accounts to be fabulous; and have been more inclined to think this supposed nation of pigmies nothing more than a species of apes, well known to be numerous in that part of the world. With this opinion the moderns have all concurred; and that diminutive race, which was described as human, has been long degraded into a class of animals that resemble us but very imperfectly.

The existence, therefore, of a pigmy race of mankind, being founded in error or in fable, we can expect to find men of diminutive stature only by accident, among men of the ordinary size. Of these accidental dwarfs, every country, and almost every village, can produce numerous instances. There was a time when these unfavoured children of nature were the peculiar favourites of the great; and no prince or nobleman thought himself completely attended, unless he had a dwarf among the number of his domestics. These poor little men were kept to be laughed at, or to raise the barbarous pleasure of their masters, by their contrasted inferiority. Even in England, as late as the times of King James I. the court was at one time furnished with a dwarf, a giant, and a jester: these the king often took a pleasure in opposing to each other, and often fomented quarrels among them, in order to be a concealed spectator of their animosity. It was a particular entertainment of the courtiers at that time to see little Jeffery, for so the dwarf was called, ride round the lists, expecting his antagonist, and discovering in his actions, all the marks of contemptible resolution.

In the reign of Charles I. a dwarf named Richard Gibson, who was a page of the back-stairs, and a favourite at court, was married to Miss Anne Shepherd, a lady of equal height; the king honoured this singular wedding with his presence, and gave away the bride. On this occasion Waller composed the following lines :

Design or chance make others wive,
But nature did this match contrive :
Eve might as well have Adam fled,
As she deny'd her little bed
To him, for whom heav'n seem'd to frame,
And measure out this only dame.

Thrice happy is that humble pair,
Beneath the level of all care !
Over whose heads those arrows fly,
Of sad distrust and jealousy ;
Secured in as high extreme,
As if the world held none but them.

To him the fairest nymphs do show,
Like moving mountains topp'd with snow ;
And ev'ry man a Polypheme
Does to his Galatea seem :
None may presume her faith to prove ;
He proffers death that proffers love.
Ah, Chloris ! that kind nature thus
From all the world had sever'd us ;
Creating for ourselves us two,
As love has me for only you !

Each of them measured three feet ten inches. This little pair were painted at whole length by Sir Peter Lely.

They had nine children, five of which attained to maturity, and were well proportioned to the usual standard of mankind. Mr. Gibson's genius led him to painting, in the rudiments of which art he was instructed by De Clein, master of the tapestry works at Mortlake, and distinguished by his drawings for several of the cuts to Ogilby's Virgil, and Sandy's Translation of Ovid.

Gibson's paintings in water-colours were well esteemed, but the copies which he made of Lely's portraits gained him the greatest reputation. He had the honour to be employed in teaching Queen Anne the art of drawing, and was sent for into Holland to instruct her sister the Princess of Orange. To recompence the shortness of their stature, nature gave them an equivalent length of days, for he died in the seventy-fifth year of his age, and his wife, having survived him almost twenty years, died in the year 1709, at the great age of eighty-nine.

In the year 1710, Peter, czar of Russia, celebrated a marriage of dwarfs, which was attended with great parade. Upon a certain day, which he had ordered to be proclaimed several months before, he invited the whole body of his courtiers, and all the foreign ambassadors, to be present at the marriage of a pigmy man and woman. The preparations for this wedding were not only very grand, but executed in a style of barbarous ridicule. He ordered that all the dwarfmen and women, within two hundred miles, should repair to the capital; and also insisted that they should be present at the ceremony. For this purpose he supplied them with proper vehicles; but so contrived it, that one horse was seen carrying a dozen of them into the city at once, while the mob followed shouting, and laughing, from behind.

Some of them were at first unwilling to obey an order, which they knew to be calculated to turn them into ridicule,
and

and did not come; but he soon obliged them to obey; and as a punishment, enjoined, that they should wait upon the rest at dinner. The whole company of dwarfs amounted to about seventy, beside the bride and bridegroom, who were richly adorned, and in the extremity of the fashion. For this little company in miniature every thing was suitably provided; a low table, small plates, little glasses, and, in short, every thing was so fitted, as if all things had been dwindleed to their own standard. It was his great pleasure to see their gravity and their pride; the contention of the women for places, and the men for superiority. This point he attempted to adjust, by ordering, that the most diminutive should take the lead; but this bred disputes, for none would then consent to sit foremost. All this, however, being at last settled, dancing followed the dinner, and the ball was opened with a minuet by the bridegroom, whose height was exactly three feet two inches. In the end, matters were so contrived, that this little company, who met together in gloomy disgust, and with an unwillingness to be pleased, being at last familiarized to laughter, entered into the diversion, and became extremely sprightly and entertaining.

A dwarf of the name of Coan was exhibited in almost every part of England, for some years. He was likewise brought upon the stage of one of the London theatres, where he was contrasted with a giant, each of whom sung for the entertainment of the audience. He died at Chelsea, March 28, 1764.

Concerning the reality of a race of giants the learned have been much divided. Ferdinand Magellan was the first who discovered such a race of people, along the coast towards the extremity of South America, in 1520. Commodore Byron touched at Patagonia, the country spoken of by Magellan, in the year 1764, when he saw a number of horsemen riding backward and forward. The natives soon collected near

the shore, to the number of five hundred, many of whom were on foot, and made signs of invitation for those on board to land. Byron accordingly went ashore in his twelve-oared boat, having with him a party of men well armed. These people are described as a gigantic race, whose height in general is not much less than seven feet. Their only clothing was the skins of beasts thrown over their shoulders, with the hair inward: they paint themselves so as to make a hideous appearance; but their disposition is neither fierce nor rapacious. Each one had a circle of white round one eye, and of black round the other; and their faces were streaked with paint of different colours. Except the skins most of them were naked; a few only having upon their legs a kind of boot, with a sharp pointed stick fastened to each heel, which served as a spur. The commodore presented them with some beads and ribbons, which they received with expressions of joy and acknowledgement. These Indians had a great number of dogs. Their horses were not large, but nimble and well broken. The Patagonians, however, were not wholly strangers to European commodities; for, on close attention to them, one woman was observed to have bracelets, either of brass or of very pale gold, upon her arms, and some beads of blue glass strung upon two long queues of hair, which being parted at top, hung down over each shoulder before her; she was of a most enormous size, and her face was, if possible, more frightfully painted than the rest. All the enquiries which could be made by signs were ineffectual to gain information whence these beads and bracelets were obtained, as these people were utterly incapable of comprehending the drift of the enquiry. The bridles which they used were made of leathern thongs; and a small piece of wood served for a bit. Their saddles resembled the pads used by the country-people in England. The women rode astride, and both men and women without stirrups.

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There is nothing about which travellers are more divided than concerning the height of these Patagonians. M. de Bougainville, who visited another part of this coast in the year 1767, asserts, that the Patagonians are not gigantic; and that "what makes them appear so, is their prodigious broad shoulders, the size of their heads, and the thickness of all their limbs." Some time before Mr. Byron made this voyage, it was the subject of warm contest among men of science in this country, whether a race of men upon the coast of Patagonia above the common stature did really exist; and the contradictory reports made by ocular witnesses, concerning this fact, tended greatly to perplex the question. It appears that, during one hundred years, almost all navigators, of whatever country, agree in affirming the existence of a race of giants upon these coasts; but, during another century a much greater number agree in denying the fact, treating their predecessors as idle fabulists. Barbenais speaks of a race of giants in South America; and the Unca Garcilassa de la Vega, in his history of Peru, is decisively on the same side of the question. Torquemado records the American traditions concerning a race of giants, and a deluge which happened in remote times in these parts; Magellan, Loaísa, Sarmiento, and Nodal, among the Spaniards; and Cavendish, Hawkins, and Knivet, among the English; while Sebald, Oliver de Noort, le Maire, and Spilberg, among the Dutch; together with some French voyagers, all bear testimony to the fact, that the inhabitants of Patagonia were of a gigantic height. On the contrary, Winter, the Dutch admiral Hermite, Froger, in De Genne's Narrative, and Sir John Narborough deny it. To reconcile these different opinions, we have only to suppose that the country is inhabited by distinct races of men, one of which is a size beyond the ordinary pitch, the other not gigantic, though perhaps tall and remarkably large limbed, and that each possess parts

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of the country separate and remote from each other. That some giants inhabit these regions can now no longer be doubted; since the concurrent testimony of late English navigators, particularly Commodore Byron, Captains Wallis and Carteret, gentlemen of unquestionable veracity, the two latter of whom are still living, establish the fact, from their not only having seen and conversed with these people, but even measured them. Mr. Clark, who sailed with Commodore Byron, and who in the last voyage succeeded, on the death of Captain Cook, to the command of the two ships, addressed a paper to the secretary of the Royal Society, which was read in 1766, and fully testified the gigantic height of the Patagonians. To these testimonies, Mr. Pennant, actuated by that zeal for science which distinguishes him on all occasions, has been enabled to add another, which is that of Father Falkener, a jesuit, but a native of England, who was alive a few years since, and whom Mr. Pennant visited for the express purpose of gaining certain information concerning the Patagonians, as he had been sent on a mission into their country about the year 1742. The father (who was very communicative, and about seventy years of age when he imparted his information to our inquirer) asserted, that the tallest which he measured, in the same manner that Mr. Byron did, was seven feet eight inches high; the common height of the men was six feet, and there were numbers who were shorter; the tallest woman did not exceed six feet. The particulars of this conversation Mr. Pennant communicated in a letter addressed to the Hon. Daines Barrington, which has since been printed at a private press, but only a few copies taken off to gratify the author's friends.

Notwithstanding the concurring testimony concerning the height of the Patagonians, M. de Buffon does not admit the existence of a race of giants, which Lord Monboddo strenuously contends for; in doing which, he relates that,

M. de

M. de Guyet, captain of a French ship trading to the South Sea, brought from the coast of Patagonia, a skeleton of one of these giants, which measured between twelve and thirteen feet, purposing to bring it to Europe; but happening to be overtaken by a violent storm, and having the Spanish archbishop of Lima on board, the ecclesiastic declared that the storm was caused by the bones of the pagan then on board, and insisted on having the skeleton thrown into the sea. His lordship adds, "The archbishop died soon after, and was thrown overboard in his turn. I could have wished that he had been thrown overboard sooner, and then the bones of the Patagonian would have arrived safe in France, though I am persuaded they would not have made Buffon alter his opinion, but he would have still maintained that it was only an accidental variety of the individual, not any difference of the race."

At Trinity College, Dublin, in the anatomical room there, is the skeleton, between seven and eight feet high, of one Magrath, who was born near Cloyne. This man was carried through various parts of Europe, and exhibited as the prodigious Irish giant; but such was his early imbecility, both of body and mind, that he died of old age in his twentieth year. The account of this prodigy is given by a very sensible writer, and is as follows:—In his infancy, he became an orphan, and was provided for by the famous Berkley, then bishop of Cloyne. This subtle doctor, who denied the existence of matter, was as inquisitive in his physical researches as he was whimsical in his metaphysical speculations; when I tell you he had well-nigh put an end to his own existence by experimenting what are the sensations of a person dying under the gallows, you will be the more ready to forgive him for his treatment of this poor orphan. The bishop had a strange fancy to know whether it was not in the power of art to increase the human stature, and this unhappy infant

infant appeared to him a fit subject for trial. He made his essay according to his preconceived theory, whatever it might be, and the consequence was, that he became seven feet high in his sixteenth year.

In the same letter follows an account of another skeleton which is preserved in the college, of one Clark, a native of Cork, who was called "the ossified man." Early in life his joints stiffened, his locomotive powers were lost, and his very jaws grew together; so that it became necessary for his sustenance to pour liquid into his mouth by means of a hole perforated through his teeth. He lived in this state several years, leaning against a wall, till at length the very organs of life were converted into bone.

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*Account of a FIERY METEOR, seen in Gascony, in July, 1790; by M. Baudin, Professor of Philosophy at Pau.*

ABOUT half an hour after ten o'clock on Sunday evening, July 24, 1790, as I was walking in the court of the castle of Mormes, along with M. de Carrits Barbotan, the atmosphere being perfectly calm and serene, and not a cloud to be seen, we found ourselves surrounded, all of a sudden, by a whitish clear light, which obscured that of the moon, though the latter shone with great lustre, as it wanted only thirty hours of being at the full. On looking upwards we observed, almost in our zenith, a fire-ball of a larger diameter than the moon. It had behind it a tail, the length of which seemed to be equal to about five or six times the diameter of the body: at the place where it was connected with the body it had about the same breadth, and decreased gradually till it ended in a point. The ball and the tail were of a pale white colour; but the point of the latter was almost as red as blood. The direction of this meteor, which proceeded with great velocity, was from south to north,

Scarcely

Scarcely had we looked at it for two seconds when it divided itself into several portions of considerable size, which we saw fall in different directions, and almost with the same appearance as the bursting of a bomb. All these different fragments became extinguished in the air, and some of them, in falling, assumed that blood-red colour which I had observed in the point of the tail. It is not improbable that all the rest may have assumed the same colour; but I remarked only those which proceeded in a direction towards Mormes, and which were particularly exposed to my view.

About three or perhaps two minutes and a half after, I am not certain which, as I was not reflecting upon what might be the consequences, and therefore did not look at my watch, we heard a dreadful clap of thunder, or rather explosion, as if several large pieces of ordnance had been fired off together. The concussion of the atmosphere by this shock was so great, that we all thought an earthquake had taken place. The windows shook in their frames, and some of them, which probably were laid-to and not closely shut, were thrown open. We were informed next day, that in some of the houses at Houga, a small town about half a mile distant from Mormes, the kitchen utensils were thrown from the shelves, so that the people concluded there had been an earthquake. But, as no movement was observed in the ground below our feet, I am inclined to think that all these effects were produced merely by the violent concussion of the atmosphere.

We proceeded into the garden, while the noise still continued, and appeared to be in a perpendicular direction above us. Some time after, when it had ceased, we heard a hollow noise, which seemed to roll along the chain of the Pyrenees, in echoes, for the distance of fifteen miles. It continued about four minutes, becoming gradually more

remote, and always weaker; and at the same time we perceived a strong smell of sulphur.

While we were endeavouring to point out to some persons present the place where the meteor had divided itself, we observed a small whitish cloud, which arose perhaps from the vapour of it, and which concealed from us the three stars of the great bear lying in the middle of those forming the semicircle. With some difficulty, however, we could at last distinguish these stars again behind the thin cloud. There arose, at the same time, a fresh gentle breeze.

From the time that elapsed between the bursting of the ball and the explosion which followed, I was inclined to think that the meteor was at the height of, at least, seven or eight miles, and that it fell four miles to the north of Mormes. The latter part of my conjecture was soon confirmed, by an account which we received, that a great many stones had fallen from the atmosphere at Juliac, and in the neighbourhood of Barbotan. One of these places lies at the distance of about four miles to the north of Mormes, and the other at about the distance of five to the north-north-west.

M. de Carrits Barbotan, who was at Juliac two days after, confirmed to us the truth of this circumstance; and it appeared from the accounts of several intelligent persons, highly worthy of credit, that the meteor burst at a little distance from Juliac, and that the stones which fell were found lying in an almost circular space, about two miles in diameter. They were of various sizes. I have not heard of any houses being damaged, though some of the stones fell into courts and gardens. In the neighbouring woods some branches were found broken and torn by the falling of the stones, which as they descended made a strong whistling noise that many persons heard. I was told also  
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by people of respectability, that as the meteor proceeded in its course they heard a rushing noise and snapping, like that of electrical sparks; which appears to me very natural, though they were heard neither by myself, nor M. de C. Barbotan.—Some stones were seen to fall, which, when found, weighed 18 or 20 pounds, and which had sunk into the earth from two to three feet. I was told also that some were found which weighed fifty pounds. M. de C. Barbotan procured one weighing eighteen pounds, which he transmitted to the Academy of Sciences at Paris. I examined a small stone which was brought to me, and found it very heavy in proportion to its size; it was black on the outside; of a greyish colour in the inside, and interspersed with a number of small shining metallic particles. On striking it with a piece of steel, it produced a few small dark red sparks, not very lively. A mineralogist, to whom a like piece of stone from the same meteor was shewn at Paris, described it as a kind of grey flag mixed with calcareous spar, the surface of which exhibited vitrified blackish calx of iron. I was told also that some stones were found totally virified.

This meteor was seen at Bayonne, Auch, Pau, Tarbes, and even at Bourdeaux and Thoulouse. I learned that in the last mentioned place it excited no great attention; which is not surprising, when we consider the great distance. It appeared there only somewhat brighter than those shooting stars which are seen from time to time; and after it burst, there was heard a hollow report almost like a distant clap of thunder.

Had it been accurately observed at Auch and Pau what stars were obscured by the vapour that arose from the bursting of the meteor, the real height of it might have been thence determined with precision.

Such, says Professor Chaldni, is the account given by Baudin of this meteor; the phenomena of which he endeavours

vours to explain from accumulations in the upper parts of the atmosphere.

According to all the observations hitherto made with any accuracy on fire-balls, the height at which they were first perceived was always very considerable; and, by comparing the angles under which they were seen from different points, often nineteen German miles, and even more; their velocity, for the most part, several miles in a second; and their size always very great, often a quarter of a mile and even more in diameter. They were all seen to fall mostly in an oblique direction: not one of them ever proceeded upwards. All of them have appeared under the form of a globular mass, sometimes a little extended in length and highly luminous; having behind it a tail, which, according to every appearance, was composed of flames and smoke. All of them burst after they were seen to move through a large space, sometimes over several districts, with an explosion which shook every thing around. In every instance where there has been an opportunity of observing the fragments that fell after they burst, and which sometimes have sunk to the depth of several feet into the earth, they were found to consist of scoriaceous masses which contained iron in metallic or calcined state, pure, or else mixed with different kinds of earth and sulphur. All the ancient and modern accounts, written partly by naturalists and partly by others, are so essentially similar, that the one seems to be only a repetition of the other. This conformity in accounts, the authors of which knew nothing of those given by others, and who could have no interest in fabricating similar tales, can scarcely have arisen from accident or fiction, and gives to the related facts, however inexplicable many of them may seem, every degree of credibility. In my essay on the mass of iron found by Professor Pallas in Siberia, and others of the like kind, and several natural phenomena therewith connected,

lected, I have collected the principal observations made on fire-balls and the falling of ferruginous scorious masses observed at the same time, and have given a kind of explanation, which, however romantic it may seem, yet agrees better, in my opinion, with the facts hitherto observed than any other, and is contrary to no law of nature hitherto known. Some critics, as well as others, have ridiculed my singular hypothesis, or condemned it altogether; but no one has yet confuted my principles, or given any other explanation that corresponds so well with facts. On the other hand, I could mention several naturalists, who, as I know from their own mouths, agree with me in the essential parts of my explanation, did I not consider it improper to bring them thus forward to public notice without their express permission. The strongest objection made to my assertions is, that such a mass, from such a prodigious height, would not sink to the depth of a few feet, but to the centre of the earth. This assertion, however, contradicts itself; because such a mass is not solid, as may be concluded from the variation of its form so often remarked, and the increase of its size till it at length bursts; but consists of soft and elastic fluids, which, probably being expanded by the heat, extends to a monstrous globular form; is then supported by the atmosphere, and loses the greater part of its gravity. To this may be added, that a soft tough mass, which besides falls in a very oblique direction, would not in general sink so far into the earth as a solid mass that falls in a perpendicular direction.—The above described meteor seems, in every point of view, to confirm my method of explanation as much as if it had absolutely taken place for that purpose. This much, at any rate, is proved, that all the phenomena which accompany fire-balls, as well as the falling of masses of ferruginous earth and sulphureous masses, observed at the same time, cannot be explained from accumulations in the upper regions

regions of the atmosphere, as it can hardly be supposed that such gross substances could float or be dissolved in so rarefied air at a height of twenty German miles, so as to be collected and to unite into monstrous masses. As we are acquainted with no power which is able to force such large bodies to so considerable a height, and then to give them an oblique movement downwards, and sometimes almost horizontal, with a velocity which is equal to that of the planets in their orbits; and as no such mass has ever been seen to ascend, they appear not be terrestrial, but cosmical bodies. Should this not be admitted, it is much to be wished that some other person might give an explanation consistent with the observed facts; and that more attention than has hitherto been bestowed, were paid to the observation of fire-balls and shooting stars; as for example, that observed on the 8th of March 1796 in Lusatia, and in some parts of Saxony and Brandenburg.

Shooting stars are perhaps meteors of the same nature as those telescopic sparks of light observed by Mr. Schröter, and may be different from fire-balls only in this, that they move at a much greater distance from our earth, and that they do not fall, but only occasion a transient luminous appearance in their passage through the upper regions of the atmosphere.

I shall here mention an idea which does not proceed from myself, but from a very intelligent astronomer, that shooting stars might be employed to determine the difference of two meridians. Two or more astronomers, residing at some distance from each other, might agree to make observations on shooting stars, which appear almost at all times, when the weather is clear, in some part of the heavens, not with instruments, but merely with the naked eye; and to remark, not only the time of their appearance, but also their apparent course; and from the difference of the times of seeing these shooting stars, the difference of the meridians of the places might



might be determined; and, from the difference of their apparent courses, their real height and real course might be discovered.

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*A Wonderful Description of the Ceremony of a GENTOO WOMAN, burning herself alive on the Funeral Pile with her deceased Husband.*

[From Cambell's Journey over Land to India.]

THE place fixed upon for this tragic scene was a small islet on the bank of one of the branches of the river Cavery, about a mile to the northward of the fort of Tanjore.

When I came to the spot, I found the victim, who appeared to be not above sixteen, sitting on the ground, dressed in the Gentoo manner, with a white cloth wrapped round her, some white flowers like jessamins hanging round her neck, and some of them hanging from her hair. There were about twenty women sitting on their hams round her, holding a white handkerchief extended horizontally over her head, to shade her from the sun, which was excessively hot, it being then about noon.

At about twenty yards from where she was sitting, and facing her, there were several bramins busy in constructing a pile with billets of fire-wood: the pile was about eight feet long, and four broad. They first began by driving some upright stakes into the ground, and then built up the middle to about the height of three feet and a half with billets of wood.

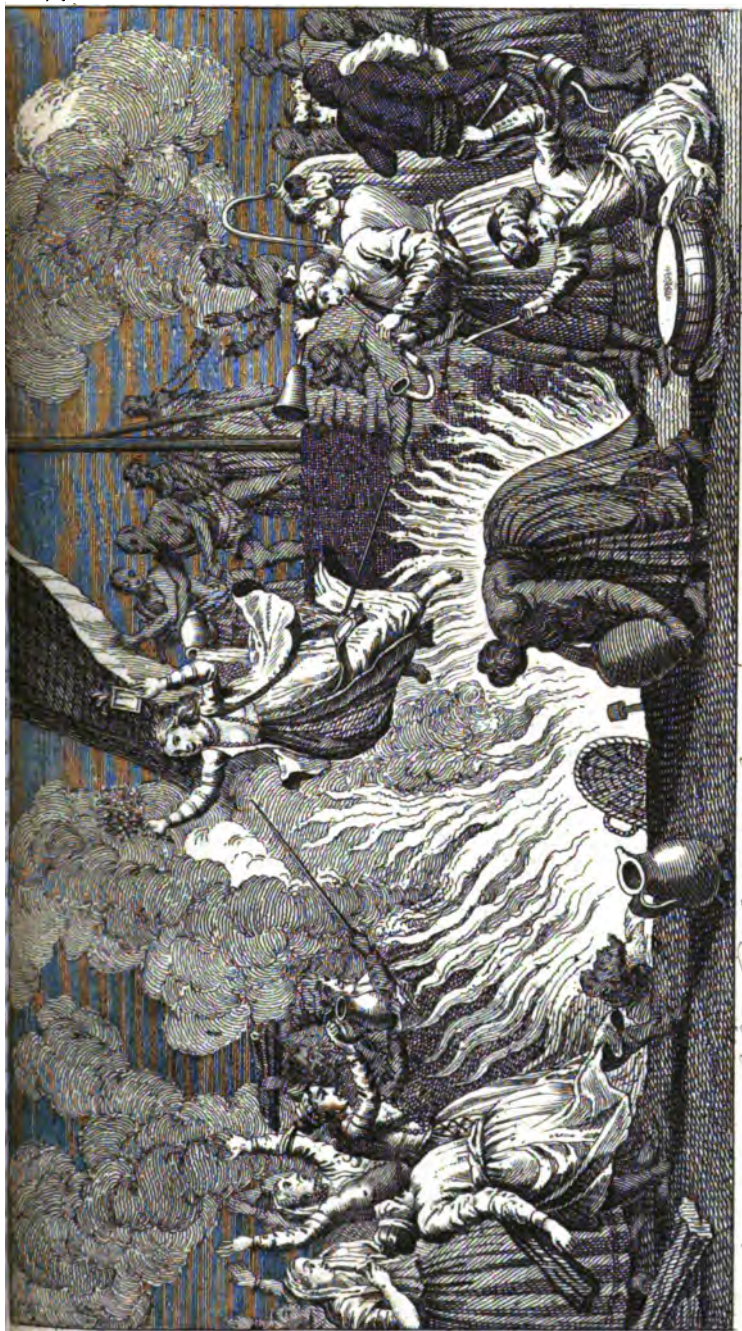
The dead husband, who, from his appearance, seemed to be about sixty years of age, was lying close by, stretched out on a bier made of bamboo canes. Four bramins walked in procession three times round the dead body, first in a direction contrary to the sun, and afterwards other three times in a direction with the sun, all the while muttering

teriug incantations; and at each round or circuit they made, they untwisted, and immediately again twisted up, the small long lock of hair which is left unshaven at the back of their heads.

Some other bramins were in the mean time employed in sprinkling water out of a green leaf, rolled up like a cup, upon a small heap of cakes of dry cow-dung, with which the pile was afterwards to be set on fire.

An old bramin sat at the north-east corner of the pile upon his hams, with a pair of spectacles on, reading, I suppose, the shaster, or their scriptures, from a book composed of cajan leaves.

Having been present now nearly an hour, I enquired when they meant to set the pile on fire: they answered me about two hours. As this spectacle was most melancholy and naturally struck me with horror, and as I had only gone there to assure myself of the truth of such sacrifices being made, I went away towards the fort. After I was gone about five hundred yards, they sent some one to tell me they would burn immediately; on which I returned, and found the woman had been moved from where she was sitting to the river, where the bramins were bathing her. On taking her out of the water, they put some money in her hand, which she dipped in the river, and divided among the bramins: she had then a yellow cloth rolled partially round her. They put some red colour about the size of a fixpence, on the centre of her forehead, and rubbed something that appeared to me to be clay. She was then led to the pile, round which she walked three times as the sun goes: she then mounted it at the north-east corner, without any assistance, and sat herself down on the right side of her husband, who had been previously laid upon the pile. She then unscrewed the pins which fastened the jewels or silver rings on her arms: after she had



*The ceremony of the Wives burning themselves in India, after the Death of their Husbands.*

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had taken them off, she shut them, and screwed in the pins again, and gave one to each of two women who were standing; she unscrewed her ear-rings and other toys with great composure, and divided them among the women who were with her. There seemed to be some little squabble about the distribution of her jewels, which she settled with great precision; and then, falling gently backwards, pulled a fold of yellow cloth over her face, turned her breast towards her husband's side, and laid her right arm over his breast; and in this posture she remained without moving.

Just before she lay down the Bramins put some rice in her lap, and also some into the mouth and on the long grey beard of her husband; they then sprinkled some water on the head, breast and feet of both, and tied them gently together round the middle with a slender bit of rope; they then raised as it were a little wall of wood length-ways on two sides of the pile, so as to raise it above the level of the bodies; and then put cross pieces so as to prevent the billets of wood from pressing on them; they then poured on the pile above where the woman lay, a potful of something that appeared to me to be oil; after this they heaped on more wood to the height of about four feet above where the bodies were built in; so that all I now saw was a stack of fire wood.

One of the Bramins, I observed, stood at the end of the pile next the woman's head—was calling to her through the interstices of the wood, and laughed several times during the conversation. Lastly, they overspread the pile with wet straw, and tied it on with ropes.

A Bramin then took a handful of straw, which he set on fire at the little heap of burning cakes of cow dung, and, standing to windward of the pile, he let the wind drive the flame from the straw till it caught the pile. Fortunately, at this instant, the wind rose much higher than it had been any part of the day, and in an instant the flames pervaded

the whole pile, and it burnt with great fury. I listened a few seconds, but could not distinguish any shrieks, which might perhaps be owing to my being then to windward. In a very few minutes the pile became a heap of ashes.

During the whole time of this process, which lasted from first to last above two hours before we lost sight of the woman by her being built up in the middle of the pile, I kept my eyes almost constantly upon her; and I declare to God that I could not perceive, either in her countenance or limbs, the least trace of either horror, fear, or even hesitation: her countenance was perfectly composed and placid; and she was not, I am positive, either intoxicated or stupefied. From several circumstances, I thought the Bramins exulted in this hellish sacrifice, and did not seem at all displeased that Europeans should be witnesses of it.

J. R. B.

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Singular Appearance of SPECTRES, or PHANTOMS occasioned by Disease.

NICOLAI, a Member of the Royal Society of Berlin, some time since presented to that Institution, a memoir on the subject of a complaint with which he was affected, and one of the singular consequences of which was, the representation of various Spectres. M. Nicolai for some years had been subject to a congestion in the head, and was bled frequently for it by leeches. After a detailed account of the state of his health, on which he grounds much medical as well as psychological reasoning, he gives the following interesting narrative:

In the first two months of the year 1791, I was much affected in my mind by several incidents of a very disagreeable nature; and on the 24th of Feb. a circumstance occurred which irritated me extremely. At ten o'clock in the forenoon

noon my wife and another person came to console me; I was in a violent perturbation of mind, owing to a series of incidents which had altogether wounded my moral feelings, and from which I saw no possibility of relief; when suddenly I observed at the distance of ten paces from me a figure—the figure of a deceased person. I pointed at it, and asked my wife whether she did not see it. She saw nothing, but being much alarmed, endeavoured to compose me, and sent for the Physician. The figure remained some seven or eight minutes, and at length I became a little more calm; and as I was extremely exhausted, I soon afterwards fell into a troubled kind of slumber which lasted for half an hour. The vision was ascribed to the great agitation of mind in which I had been, and it was supposed I should have nothing more to apprehend from that cause; but the violent affection having put my nerves into some unnatural state, from this arose further consequences which require a more detailed description.

In the afternoon, a little after four o'clock, the figure which I had seen in the morning again appeared. I was alone when this happened; a circumstance which, as may be easily conceived, could not be very agreeable. I went therefore to the apartment of my wife, to whom I related it. But thither also the figure pursued me. Sometimes it was present, sometimes it vanished; but it was always the same standing figure. A little after six o'clock several stalking figures also appeared; but they had no connection with the standing figure. I can assign no other reason for this apparition than that, though much more composed in my mind, I had not been able so soon entirely to forget the cause of such deep and distressing vexation, and had reflected on the consequences of it, in order, if possible, to avoid them; and that this happened three hours after dinner, at the time when the digestion just begins.

At length I became more composed with respect to the disagreeable incident which had given rise to the first apparition; but though I had used very excellent medicines, and found myself in other respects perfectly well, yet the apparitions did not diminish, but on the contrary rather increased in number, and were transformed in the most extraordinary manner.

After I had recovered from the first impression of terror, I never felt myself particularly agitated by these apparitions, as I considered them to be what they really were, the extraordinary consequences of indisposition; on the contrary, I endeavoured as much as possible to preserve my composure of mind, that I might remain distinctly conscious of what passed within me. I observed these phantoms with great accuracy, and very often reflected on my previous thoughts, with a view to discover some law in the association of ideas, by which exactly these or other figures might present themselves to the imagination. Sometimes I thought I had made a discovery, especially in the latter period of my visions; but on the whole, I could trace no connection which the various figures that thus appeared and disappeared to my sight, had either with my state of mind, or with my employment, and the other thoughts which engaged my attention. After frequent accurate observations on the subject, having fairly proved, and maturely considered it, I could form no other conclusion on the cause and consequence of such apparitions that when the nervous system is weak, and at the same time too much excited, or rather deranged, similar figures may appear in such a manner as if they were actually seen and heard; for these visions, in my case, were not the consequence of any known law of reason, of the imagination, or of the otherwise usual association of ideas; and such also is the case with other men, as far as we can reason from the few examples we know.

The origin of the individual pictures which present themselves to us, must undoubtedly be sought for in the structure of that organization by which we think ; but this will always remain no less inexplicable to us than the origin of these powers by which consciousness and fancy are made to exist.

The figure of the deceased person never appeared to me after the first dreadful day ; but several other figures shewed themselves afterwards very distinctly ; sometimes such as I knew, mostly, however, of persons I did not know, and amongst those known to me, were the semblance of both living and deceased persons, but mostly the former ; and I made the observation, that acquaintance with whom I daily conversed, never appeared to me as phantasms ; it was always such as were at a distance. When these apparitions had continued some weeks, and I could regard them with the greatest composure, I afterwards endeavoured, at my own pleasure, to call forth phantoms of several acquaintance, whom I for that reason represented to my imagination in the most lively manner, but in vain.—For however accurately I pictured to my mind the figures of such persons, I never once could succeed in my desire of seeing them *externally* ; though I had some short time before seen them as phantoms, and they had perhaps afterwards unexpectedly presented themselves to me in the same manner. The phantasms appeared to me in every case involuntarily, as if they had been presented externally, like the phenomena in nature, though they certainly had their origin internally ; and at the same time I was always able to distinguish with the greatest precision phantasms from phenomena. Indeed I never once erred in this, as I was in general perfectly calm and self-collected on the occasion. I knew extremely well, when it only appeared to me that the door was opened, and a phantom entered, and when the door really was opened, and any person came in.

It is also to be noted, that these figures appeared to me at all times, and under the most different circumstances equally distinct and clear. Whether I was alone, or in company, by broad day-light equally as in the night time, in my own as well as in my neighbour's house; yet when I was at another person's house, they were less frequent; and when I walked the public street, they very seldom appeared. When I shut my eyes, sometimes the figures disappeared, sometimes they remained even after I had closed them. If they vanished in the former case, on opening my eyes again, nearly the same figures appeared which I had seen before.

I sometimes conversed with my physician and my wife, concerning the phantasms which at the time hovered round me; for in general the forms appeared oftener in motion than at rest. They did not always continue present—they frequently left me altogether, and again appeared for a short or longer space of time, singly or more at once; but, in general, several appeared together. For the most part I saw human figures of both sexes; they commonly passed to and fro as if they had no connection with each other, like people at a fair where all is bustle; sometimes they appeared to have business with one another. Once or twice I saw among them persons on horseback, and dogs and birds; these figures all appeared to me in their natural size, as distinctly as if they had existed in real life, with the several tints on the uncovered parts of the body, and with all the different kinds of colours of clothes. But I think, however, that the colours were somewhat paler than they are in nature.

None of the figures had any distinguishing characteristic; they were neither terrible, ludicrous, nor repulsive; most of them were ordinary in their appearance—some were even agreeable.

On the whole, the longer I continued in this state, the more did the number of phantasms encrease, and the apparitions

visions became more frequent. About four weeks afterwards I began to hear them speak: sometimes the phantasms spoke with one another; but for the most part they addressed themselves to me: those speeches were in general short, and never contained any thing disagreeable. Intelligent and respected friends often appeared to me, who endeavoured to console me in my grief, which still left deep traces in my mind. This speaking I heard most frequently when I was alone: though I sometimes heard it in company, intermixed with the conversation of real persons; frequently in single phrases only, but sometimes even in connected discourse.

Though at this time I enjoyed rather a good state of health, both in body and mind, and had become so very familiar with these phantasms, that at last they did not excite the least disagreeable emotion, but on the contrary afforded me frequent subjects for amusement and mirth; yet as the disorder sensibly encreased, and the figures appeared to me for whole days together; and even during the night, if I happened to awake, I had recourse to several medicines, and was at last again obliged to have recourse to the application of leeches to the anus.

This was performed on the 20th of April, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon. I was alone with the surgeon, but during the operation the room swarmed with human forms of every description, which crowded fast one on another; this continued till half past four o'clock, exactly the time when the digestion commences. I then observed that the figures began to move more slowly; soon afterwards the colours became gradually paler, and every seven minutes they lost more and more of their intensity, without any alteration in the distinct figure of the apparitions. At about half past six o'clock all the figures were entirely white, and moved very little; yet the forms appeared perfectly distinct; by degrees they

they became visibly less plain, without decreasing in number, as had often formerly been the case. The figures did not move off, neither did they vanish, which also had usually happened on other occasions.

In this instance they dissolved immediately into air, of some even whole pieces remained for a length of time, which also by degrees were lost to the eye. At about eight o'clock there did not remain a vestige of any of them, and I have never since experienced any appearance of the same kind. Twice or thrice since that time I have felt a propensity, if I may be so allowed to express myself, or a sensation, as if I saw something which in a moment again was gone. I was even surprised by this sensation whilst writing the present account, having, in order to render it more accurate, perused the papers of 1791, and recalled to my memory all the circumstances of that time. So little are we sometimes, even in the greatest composure of mind, masters of our imagination.

J. R. B.

The Remarkable Trial of MARY BLANDY, for the MURDER of her own Father, at Henley-upon-Thames.

DREADFUL, however, as the melancholy catastrophe we have to detail is, we are not without hopes that the publication of such enormous atrocities have a better operation on the general mind, than the mere passing by a tedious hour, otherwise devoted to idleness and folly; and that the heart which is appalled, and almost bloodless, at the contemplation of nature outraging itself in the destruction of the author of a child's being, by the hand of that barbarous child, will be amended, and yearn with kindness and philanthropy, in proportion to the contrast which is so evidently beautiful between virtue and vice. Fain would we draw a veil over this dark and diabolical conspiracy against the

the life of a tender and affectionate parent, in whose well-tempered breast, even the knowledge of the brutal stab made at his frail existence, by the cruel, slow, and deliberate barbarity of his own daughter, did not expel the heavenly attribute of the Divine Majesty—*Forgiveness*. He complained not; he reviled not; he even cautioned his unnatural murderer not to expose herself to peril, by uttering what might endanger her own safety. He that can so forgive the sin of his own murderer, we trust and hope, carried up to “Heaven’s *High Chancery*” the best possible claim to forgiveness from the Almighty Father for his own. And it takes off part of the pain imposed upon us in reciting this bloody act of atrocity in the daughter, to turn to the amiable contrast of the end of a suffering hero and resigned christian, in the person of the father.

Mary Blandy was indicted before the Hon. Sir Sydney S. Smythe and Baron Legge, at Oxford assizes, for that she, not having the fear of God before her eyes, but being moved by the instigation of the devil, did, to wit, at Henly-upon-Thames, in the said county of Oxford, between the 10th day of November, in the 23d year of the reign of our sovereign lord George II. and the 5th day of August, in the 25th of the said king, feloniously contrive, in his life-time, to kill and murder Francis Blandy, gentleman, her father, now deceased, by mixing at divers times certain deadly poisons, to wit, white arsenic in certain tea, at divers times, during the times above specified, &c. &c. &c. which said poison was at divers times administered to him by the prisoner in water-gruel, to be then and there drank by him: and that the deceased did then and there, not knowing the said poison to be so mixed in his beverage, drink and afterwards swallow, and by the operation thereof did become sick and languish, and on the 14th day of August, in the year aforesaid, did, at the parish aforesaid, in the county aforesaid, of

that poison, die; and the prisoner, Mary Blandy, did him, the said Francis, feloniously, wilfully, and of malice aforethought, poison, kill, and murder, against the peace of our said lord the King, his Crown, and Dignity.

After the Honourable Mr. Barrington had opened the indictment, which we have purposely abbreviated,

The Honourable Mr. Bathurst, in a strain of impassioned eloquence, blended with a candour and liberality, for which the English bar has been so much distinguished, disclosed to a silent and attentive court, a scene of horror and atrocity, of which, he said, he regretted the proofs were too plain, and the guilt of the principal actors in it, too glaringly established, to leave any doubt in the minds of the jury, after the witnesses he should bring forward should have been examined—a crime so shocking in its own nature, and so aggravated in all its circumstances, as must justly render her infamous to the latest posterity, and will make our children's children, when they read the horrid tale, blush to think that such an inhuman creature ever had an existence.

Mr. Francis Blandy was a respectable attorney at Henley upon Thames. In hopes of settling his only daughter, the prisoner at the bar, advantageously in the world, he gave out to the world, that at his death he should give her 10,000*l.* for her fortune, hoping that this lure would gain her the hand of some of the neighbouring gentlemen in marriage. Fatal delusion! unhappy duplicity! which, by awakening avarice, smothered humanity, and stifled the voice of nature.

One Captain William Henry Cranstoun, of the army, came, some six years before this dreadful act, to Henley to recruit; he heard she was to be possessed of this fatal legacy at the death of the father, and fell in love, not with her, but with her fortune; and, (although himself married
and

and a father), insinuating himself into her good graces, obtained her consent to marry him.—The unfortunate deceased having heard a bad character of Captain Cranstoun, and believing him to be married, was averse to this proposal; and from this objection and impediment, it was resolved to remove the father by poison, in hopes to obtain the 10,000*l.* which, in an evil hour, he had said he was worth.

To effect this, Captain Cranstoun being at Mr. Blandy's house in August, 1750, they both agreed upon this damnable deed; and to prepare the minds of the ignorant and credulous for the dread circumstance, they pretended to hear music and strange noises in the house—prognostics (they said) of the approaching death of some of the family within the year; and Cranstoun employed his hereditary property, in the *second fight*, to the effecting his devilish purpose. But there is an Eye above us, that sees at *first fight*!—a Power that thwarts the designs of the wicked, and a Hand that will ever avenge murder and parricide. They accomplished their guilt; but the golden harvest they had promised themselves as the reward of their crime, was blasted, mildewed, and destroyed; and the whole of this expected inheritance, terminated in remorse, tears, sighs, fetters, and an ignominious death to one of its contrivers.

Is it to be believed, that atrocity like this can prosper? that crimes like these can be forgiven?

From the time (August 1750) when this deed was agreed on, to the fatal day of its completion, (August 14, 1752) were these monsters employed in murdering, by slow but certain steps, this miserable man; the administering to her father the poison which he (Cranstoun) from time to time remitted to her, with some Scotch pebbles, to clean which the white arsenick was said to be a powder of efficacy. And when, after Mr. Blandy had observed something gritty

in his tea, and put it away into his cat's basin, she wrote to Cranston, he instructed her to administer it, in future, in a thicker substance—water-gruel ever after was the vehicle. In support of the indictment, the counsel for the Crown called a number of witnesses, particularly Dr. Addington, who attended this unhappy gentleman in his last illness. He deposed, that he was first called in upon Saturday evening, the 10th of August, 1751. Mr. Blandy complained to him, that, after drinking some water-gruel on Monday night, the 5th of August, he perceived a grittiness in his mouth, attended with a pricking burning about his tongue and throat, and in his stomach accompanied with sickness, griping in the bowels, and that, after purging and vomiting a great deal, the symptoms he complained of were considerably lessened; that on Tuesday night, the 6th, he again took some gruel, and had immediately a return of the same symptoms, with aggravated hiccups, cold sweats, great anxieties, and prickings all over his body, as if many needles were darting into his flesh. Dr. Addington examined his body, and from his observations (which, from delicacy, we forbear inserting), he had great cause to believe, that the deceased had swallowed poison, which had considerably lacerated and injured the ducts, by the violence of its operation. So great was his suspicion, that he asked the deceased in the presence of the prisoner "Whether he had not given offence to any person whatever?"—Miss Blandy replied, "My father is at peace with *all the world*, and all the world with him." He, the Doctor, then plainly told the deceased, that he really suspected that he had taken poison; to which the prisoner again replied, "It was impossible." He returned to visit him on Sunday morning, and found him something relieved; but on one of the maids (Susan Gunnel) observing something white and gritty at the bottom of her master's gruel, she gave it

to Mr. Norton, the apothecary, who placed this powder in the hands of this deponent Dr. Addington; and he, having examined it at leisure, found it to be white arsenic; and the other maid (Betty Binfield) having taken a paper out of the fire, which she *saw* the prisoner throw into it, and having examined that also (on which was written—"Powder to clean the pebbles"), he found it to contain white arsenic. He then, confirmed in his suspicions, called in the aid of another physician, as he apprehended that this would be matter before a Court of Judicature. He then asked the deceased whether he really thought he was poisoned? To which he replied—"That he really believed so, and thought he had taken it often, for of late his teeth had frequently dropped out from the effects of what he conceived to be poison, and that he always thought there was mischief in those cursed Scotch pebbles." Dr. Lewis, who was also called in, in every particular confirmed the evidence of Dr. Addington, both as to the fact of the deceased having swallowed poison, and also that the poison was white arsenic, as proved by chemical process. [We decline inserting at large his evidence on this head.] He recollected hearing the deceased say of his daughter, "Poor love-sick girl, what would she not do for the man of her choice;" and to her, when his suspicions of being poisoned, by his own daughter, were confirmed by Dr. Addington's communicating that fact to him, "Thee should'st have considered that I was thy own father!"—And upon her begging the deceased not to curse her, he answered—"God forbid that I should *curse* thee; God bless thee, and mend thy future life!"

The witnesses next called were Susan Gunnell and Betty Binfield. Susan Gunnell deposed, that, upon examining her master's water-gruel, she observed at the bottom a powder much whiter than oatmeal, and very gritty, when rubbed

rubbed between her fingers. That having been told that poison was white and gritty, she first shewed it to Betty Binfield, her fellow-servant, who delivered it to Mr. Norton, her master's apothecary, who gave it to Dr. Addington.

He, as above stated, put it to a chemical analysis, and it proved to be white arsenic.—Susan Gunnel having herself taken a small portion of her master's gruel, was instantly taken ill with the different symptoms, accompanied with prickings and burnings, swelling of the throat and tongue, and was only relieved by copious vomitings and purging; and, upon an old nurse of Miss Blandy's being taken dangerously ill after taking some gruel, Miss Blandy, the prisoner, desired Susan Gunnel to "warn her not to drink of her father's gruel, otherwise it would do for her." After these, more than suspicions prevailed in the family. Betty Binfield observed Miss Blandy throw something in the fire, she threw some fresh coals over it, and on the prisoner's leaving the room, she told Susan Gunnel of it; and removing the coals with a stick, took out a parcel on which was written, "Powder to clean the pebbles with." This parcel being also given to Dr. Addington, was likewise examined chymically, and proved to be white arsenic. These several corroborative proofs, added to the united testimony of both the latter witnesses, to the unnatural expression made use of by the prisoner, who has been heard to call her father a *toothless* old villain, and also to say, "who would grudge sending an old father to hell for 10,000l." seemed in a great degree to determine the verdict on this most extraordinary and melancholy trial. Upon the demise of Mr. Blandy, which was on the 14th of August, 1752, Dr. Addington caused Miss Blandy to be confined in her room, until such time as the Mayor should order her into closer confinement; and upon her being told, that

Cranstoun

Cranston was also confined, she expressed pleasure, as he would be punished with her; and stamping on the ground, she exclaimed, "the villain has ruined me, I *knew* what I did, and *knew* the consequence." While her father lay dead in the house, she proposed to Susan Gunnell to go for a post-chaise, and offered her a large sum to go away with her; upon Susan positively refusing her, she burst into a laughter, and said, she was only *joking*—a strange moment for an innocent child to choose for joking. She, however, did leave the house, and on being pursued, and insulted by the mob, who by this time were acquainted with part of the horrid fact, she took refuge with the woman of an inn in the neighbourhood, who reconducted her to the house. The witness, on her examination, however, declared, that the prisoner was not so dressed as to make her think she meditated an escape from the house of the deceased. She was walking very slowly, and did not indicate any wish or design to escape; but being pressed and insulted by the mob, accepted of her (the witness's) offer to come into her house.—The prisoner was shortly after removed to Oxford, and now stood at the bar, upon trial for her life or death, for the killing and murdering the deceased.

Upon being called upon for her defence, she made the following speech:

"My Lord,

"It is morally impossible for me to lay down the hardships I have received—I have been aspersed in my character. In the first place, it has been said I spoke ill of my father; that I have cursed him, and wished him at hell; which is extremely false. Sometimes little family affairs have happened, and he did not speak to me so kind as I could wish. I own I am passionate, my lord; and in those passions some hasty expressions might have dropped: but great care has been taken to recollect every word I have spoken at different

ferent times, and to apply them to such particular purposes as my enemies knew would do me the greatest injury. These are hardships, my lord, such as yourself must allow to be so. It was said too, my lord, that I endeavoured to make my escape. Your lordship will judge from the difficulties I laboured under: I had lost my father;—I was accused of being his murderer;—I was not permitted to go near him;—I was forsaken by my friends—affronted by the mob—and insulted by my servants.—Although I begged to have the liberty to listen at the door where he died, I was not allowed it. My keys were taken from me; my shoe-buckles and garters too—to prevent me from making away with myself, as though I was the most abandoned creature. What could I do, my lord? I verily believe I must have been out of my senses. When I heard my father was dead, I ran out of the house, and over the bridge, and had nothing on but an half sack and petticoats, without a hoop—my petticoats hanging about me;—the mob gathered about me. Was this a condition, my lord, to make my escape in? A good woman beyond the bridge, seeing me in this distress, desired me to walk in, till the mob was dispersed: the town serjeant was there; I begged he would take me under his protection, to have me home: the woman said it was not proper: the mob was very great, and that I had better stay a little. When I came home, they said I used the constable ill. I was locked up for fifteen hours, with only an old servant of the family to attend me. I was not allowed a maid for the common decencies of my sex. I was sent to gaol, and was in hopes there at least this usage would have ended; but was told, it was reported I was frequently drunk; that I attempted to make my escape; that I did not attend at chapel. A more abstemious woman, my lord, I believe, does not live.

“ Upon the report of my making my escape, the gentleman

tleman who was high sheriff last year (not the present) came and told me, by order of the higher powers, he must put an iron on me. I submitted, as I always do, to the higher powers. Some time after he came again, and said he must put an heavier upon me ; which I have worn, my lord, till I came hither. I asked the sheriff, why I was so ironed ? He said, he did it by the command of some noble peer, on his hearing that I intended making my escape. I told them I never had any such thought, and I would bear it with the other cruel usage I had received on my character. The Reverend Mr. Swinton, the worthy clergyman who attended me in prison, can testify I was regular at the chapel, whenever I was well ; sometimes I really was not able to come out, and then he attended me in my room. They have likewise published papers and depositions, which ought not to have been published, in order to represent me as the most abandoned of my sex, and to prejudice the world against me. I submit myself to your lordships, and to the worthy jury.—I do assure your lordship, as I am to answer it at the great tribunal, where I must appear, I am as innocent as the child unborn of the death of my father. I would not endeavour to save my life, at the expence of truth. I really thought the powder an innocent, inoffensive thing ; and I gave it to procure his love (meaning towards Cranstoun). It has been mentioned, I should say I was ruined. My lord, when a young woman loses her character, is not that her ruin ? Why then should this expression be construed in so wide a sense ? Is it not ruining my character to have such a thing laid to my charge ? And, whatever may be the event of this trial, I am ruined most effectually."

The trial lasted eleven hours, and then the judge summed up the evidence, mentioning the scandalous behaviour of some people respecting the prisoner, in printing and pub-

lishing what they called depositions taken before the coroner, relating to the affair before them : to which he added, " I hope you have not seen them ; but if you have, I must tell you, as you are men of sense and probity, that you must divest yourselves of every prejudice that can arise from thence, and attend merely to the evidence that has been now given."

The learned judge then observed, that as murder by poison, is of a nature the most difficult to be traced, in as much as the hand administering it is unseen, it more than any other mode of killing admits the reception of circumstantial evidence, or reasoning upon the combinations of operating circumstances—the consequences beneficial or otherwise arising to the person accused—the situation of the parties—and the motives conducive to, or opposed to, the execution and completion of such alledged design. In the present trial much of circumstantial evidence had necessarily been given : and it would rest with the jury, what degree of respectability was annexed to the several witnesses brought forward in the course of the trial. Wherever there was doubt, or uncertainty, as to the circumstantial part, they would acquit themselves honourably by leaning to the side of mercy, and place it to the advantage of the prisoner.

It appeared that after Captain Cranstoun had left the house of the deceased Mr. Francis Blandy, he the deceased did become very ill, and that after taking sometimes tea and sometimes water-gruel, he was seized with grievous pains, vomiting, purging, and sickness ; that his body was tormented by burnings, and prickings, as if many needles were thrust into his flesh ; his throat, tongue, and eyes, swelled and inflamed ; that when, from violent reachings and other evacuations, he was relieved, he continued better, until upon receiving his beverage, he was again attacked with more violent reachings, and the symptoms were more
alarming,

alarming, his teeth rotted and fell out; on his death bed, Dr. Addington, on questioning him, whether he did not really think he was poisoned, was answered by the deceased, that he did really believe so, and *had* done so for some time, as he was always ill and his teeth rotted faster after his daughter's receiving those "*Curfed Scotch pebbles.*" The doctor under suspicion of his being poisoned, received from Mr. Norton the powder which Susan Gunnell swore she took out of the bottom of the deceased's water-gruel, and after having analyzed it, (and he described the process fully), it turned out to be *white arsenic*. Another paper was found on the fire, by Betty Binfield, who swore, that she saw the prisoner place it there. And Susan Gunnell positively swore that she also saw it taken out of the fire; on this paper being examined by Dr. Addington, in the same chymical manner, it was found also to be white arsenic. Dr. Lewis swore, also, that on his being called in to attend the deceased by Dr. Addington, that he verily believes that the deceased did die of poison, taken and swallowed by him, not knowing it to be mixed with his drink. Upon the whole of the circumstances, with the corroborative proof of the servants, and her own admission of having administered the poison, although under the idea that it was a *love potion*, and to which it would be very important that the jury should pay the greatest attention—if they were satisfied with the testimonies, together with the rebuke given by the suffering father to the prisoner, that the prisoner did administer the poison knowingly and maliciously, they would find her guilty, otherwise innocent.

The jury without hesitation pronounced her guilty.

After conviction, she behaved with the utmost decency and resignation. She was attended by the Reverend Mr. Swinton, from whose hands she received the sacrament on the day before her execution, declaring that she did not

know there was any thing hurtful in the powders she had given her father.

The night before her death she spent in devotion; and at nine in the morning she left her apartment, being dressed in a black bombazine, and having her arms bound with black ribbons.

The clergyman attended her to the place of execution, to which she walked with the utmost solemnity of deportment; and, when there, acknowledged her fault in administering the powders to her father, but declared that, as she must soon appear before the most awful tribunal, she had no idea of doing injury, nor any suspicions that the powders were of a poisonous nature.

Having ascended some steps of the ladder, she said, "Gentlemen, don't hang me high, for the sake of decency." Being desired to go something higher, she turned about, and expressed her apprehensions that she should fall. The rope being put round her neck, she pulled her handkerchief over her face, and was turned off on holding out a book of devotions which she had been reading.

The crowd of spectators assembled on this occasion was immense; and, when she had hung the usual time, she was cut down, and the body being put into a hearse, was conveyed to Henley, and interred with her parents, at one o'clock on the following morning.

She was executed at Oxford, on the 6th of April, 1752.

It will be now proper to return to Cranstoun, who was the original contriver of this horrid murder. Having heard of Miss Blandy's commitment to Oxford gaol, he concealed himself some time in Scotland, and then escaped to Bologna in France. Meeting there with Mrs. Ross, who was distantly related to his family, he acquainted her with his situation, and begged her protection: on which she advised him to change his name for her maiden name of Dunbar.

Some

Some officers in the French service, who were related to his wife, hearing of his concealment, vowed revenge if they should meet with him, for his cruelty to the unhappy woman: on which he fled to Paris, whence he went to Furnes, a town in Flanders, where Mrs. Rose had provided a lodging for his reception.

He had not been long at Furnes, when he was seized with a severe fit of illness, which brought him to a degree of reflection to which he had been long a stranger. At length, he sent for a father belonging to an adjacent convent, and received absolution from his hands, on declaring himself a convert to the Romish faith.

Cranstoun died on the 30th of November, 1752, and the fraternity of monks and friars looked on his conversion as an object of such importance that solemn mass was sung on the occasion, and the body was followed to the grave, not only by the Ecclesiastics, but by the magistrates of the town.

His papers were then sent to Scotland, to his brother, lord Cranstoun: his cloaths were sold for the discharge of his debts; and his wife came into possession of the interest of the fifteen hundred pounds above mentioned.

This case is one of the most extraordinary that we shall have occasion to record in these volumes. The character and conduct of Cranstoun are infamous beyond all description. A married man seeking a young lady in marriage, seducing her by the vilest artifices, and the most atrocious falsehoods; and then murdering her father to obtain the object of his wishes, exhibits an accumulated picture of guilt to which no language can do justice. His sufferings afterwards appear to have been a providential punishment of his crimes. We are to hope that his penitence was sincere; but it is impossible to think highly of a religion that offers immediate pardon and absolution to a criminal,

of

of whatever magnitude, on the single declaration of his becoming a convert to that religion.

With regard to Miss Blandy, the public have ever been divided in opinion on her case. Those who have presumed on her innocence, have tacitly acknowledged that she was very weak, which contradicts the accounts we have of her genius and mental acquirements. On the contrary, those who have insisted on her guilt, have made no allowances for the weakness of the female mind; nor considered the influence of an artful man over the heart of a girl in love.

Her solemn declaration of her innocence would almost tempt one to think that she *was* innocent; for it is next to impossible to suppose that a woman of her sense and education, would depart this life with a wilful lie in her mouth.

Be all this as it may, an obvious lesson is to be learnt from her fate.—Young ladies should be cautious of listening to the insidious address of artful love, as they know not how soon, and how unsuspectedly, their hearts may be engaged to their own destruction, founded on the violation of all their nobler duties.



Remarkable MEMORANDA relative to LONDON.

By ancient custom, the Lords Mayors, when the Barons of the Exchequer are out of town, are sworn in on Tower-Hill, by the Constable of the Tower. This happened in 1665, the year of the great plague, and again in 1741, when the then Lord Cornwallis was Constable of the Tower. The twelve companies attended the Lord Mayor, and the ceremony was performed in great state.

The Spital Sermons, now preached at St. Bride's, on Easter Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, are so called from their having been first established and preached at the Church of St. Mary Spittal (Spital-Fields), at which the
Mayor

Mayor and Aldermen, in their scarlet robes, with their wives, were to be present. The pulpit in Spital Church being broken down in the great rebellion, the sermons, after the Restoration, were preached at St. Bride's.

New Palace Yard, Westminster, was inclosed with a wall, and had four gates. That now leading to the landing-place by the river was one of them. Opposite to this was a gate leading into King-street, near the Sanctuary. For the "Jufts, Banquetts, and Disguisings used at the entertainment of Katherine, wife of Prince Arthure, eldest sonne to Henry VII. the great and large space before Westminster Hall and the Palace was gravelled, fanded, and goodly ordered for the ease of the horses, and a tilt set and arrayed at the whole length from the water-gate well nigh up to the entrance of the gate, that openeth into the King's street towards the Sanctuary." *LELAND'S Collection*. The old buildings nearest to the water are probably not of earlier date than Elizabeth's reign. A door is yet remaining, on which is carved E. R. 1602.

In Chamberlayne's *Anglia Notitia* for 1684, Soho-square is called "King's Square in Soho-Fields buildings," and St. James's-square "the stately piles in St. James's-fields." In these fields the market, now confined to a small spot in the neighbourhood, had been formerly kept. *England's Remembrancer*, 1679, contains the following item: "A market proclaimed to be kept at St. James his fields for all sorts of provisions, every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday; and every Monday and Wednesday for all sorts of cattle in the Haymarket, in the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields. Sept. 27, 1664.

In a letter of G. Garrard to the Earl of Strafford, dated Jan. 9, 1633, it is said, "All back-doors to taverns on the Thames are commanded to be shut up, only the Bear at the Bridge foot is exempted, by reason of the passage to Greenwich."

Greenwich."—Query. Did this tavern stand so far from the Bridge as the present Bear Quay? In a former letter to his Lordship, by the same Correspondent, is the following passage:—"The Earl of Buccleugh being newly returned out of the Low Countries, where he had been long a Colonel, Sir Jacob Astley and he, coming that day post from Rochester, lighted at the Bear at Bridge Foot, when they drunk a glass of sack with a toast, putting instantly to water; not being many boat's lengths from the shore, my Lord Buccleugh cried out, "*I am deadly sick, row back; Lord, have mercy upon me*"; without more words spoken, he died that night." Letters of the Earl of Strafford; vol. i. p. 166.

In one of the letters above quoted, is the following passage:—"Here hath been an Order of the Lords of the Council hung up in a table near Paul's and the Black Friars, to command all that resort to the playhouse there to send away their coaches, to disperse abroad in Paul's Church-yard, Carter-lane, the Conduit in Fleet-street, and other places, and not to return to fetch their company, but they must trot afoot to find their coaches. 'Twas very strictly kept for two or three weeks, but now I think it is disordered again."

T. K.

The following is the ORIGIN of ALMANACKS.

OUR ancestors, the Germans, used to engrave or cut upon square sticks about a foot in length, the courses of the moon of the whole year, whereby they could tell when the new moons, and changes, should happen; as also their festival days, and such a carved stick they called an *Almon-acht*, that is to say, all must heed.

A. S.

Particulars

Particulars of COLONEL EDWARD MARCUS DESPARD, a most singular Character, who suffered for High Treason, with six of his Associates, on the Platform, at the Top of the Front of the New Prison, Horseshoe-Lane, Southwark, Monday, Feb. 21, 1803.

By holding up to view the singularly vicious, as well as the wonderfully virtuous, our work will, we trust, be found a museum of morality; for by exposing the deformity of vice, we guard youth against it, and render the beauties of virtue, by such contrast, still more lovely. Not temporary matter (had chiefly from report) is the object of this undertaking, but well authenticated occurrences, which may serve posterity as well as present readers; and therefore we have delayed many articles (Despard in particular) for the sake of procuring the best information, and laying before the public no *Wonders* but what are TRUE.

The name of this traitor acquired no little notoriety on account of his imprisonment in Cold-Bath-Fields Prison, and the treatment he has been said to have there experienced. A gentleman every way qualified to do him justice, from intimate knowledge of him, and the possession of respectable talents, has, without his privity, exposed to the public the life and conduct of this extraordinary man, in whose fate so general an interest has been excited.

“ He was born in 1750, or 1751, and descended from a very ancient and respectable family in Queen’s County in Ireland. He is the youngest of six brothers, all of whom, except the eldest, have served either in the army or navy. In 1766, he entered the army as an ensign in the 50th regiment; in the same regiment he served as a lieutenant, and in the 79th he served successively as lieutenant, quartermaster, captain-lieutenant, and captain. From his superior

officers he received many marks of approbation, particularly from General Calcraft, of the 50th, General Meadows, and the Duke of Northumberland. He has been, for the last twenty years detached from any particular corps, and intrusted with important offices. In 1779, he was appointed Chief Engineer to the St. Juan Expedition, and conducted himself so as to obtain distinguished attention and praise from Captain Polson, who commanded upon that occasion. He also received the thanks of the Council and Assembly of Jamaica, for the construction of public works there, and was in consequence of these services, appointed by the Governor of Jamaica, to be 'Commander in Chief of the Island of Rattan, and its dependencies, and of the troops there, and to rank as Lieutenant-Colonel and Field Engineer, and commanded as such on the Spanish main, in Rattan, and on the Mosquito shore, and Bay of Honduras.' After this, at Cape Gracias a Dios he put himself at the head of the inhabitants, who voluntarily solicited him to take the command, and retook from the Spaniards, Black River, the principal settlement of the coast. For this service he received the thanks of the Governor, Council, and Assembly of Jamaica, and of the King himself. Copies of the original documents by which these acknowledgements were conveyed, are exhibited in this work. In 1783, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel. In 1784, he was appointed First Commissioner for settling and receiving the territory ceded to Britain by the sixth article of the Definitive Treaty of Peace with Spain in 1783. He as a Colonel so well discharged his duty, that he was appointed Superintendent of his Majesty's affairs on the coast of Honduras, which office he held much to the advantage of the Crown of England, for he obtained from that of Spain some very important privileges. The clashing interests, however, of the inhabitants of this coast, produced much discontent,

discontent, and the Colonel was by a party of them accused of various misdemeanours to his Majesty's Ministers. He now came home, and demanded that his conduct should be investigated, but was, after two years constant attendance on all the departments of Government, at last told by Ministers that there was no charge against him worthy of investigation; that his Majesty had thought proper to abolish the office of Superintendant at Honduras, otherwise he should have been reinstated in it. But he was then, and on every occasion, assured that his services should not be forgotten, but in due time meet their reward.

On Tuesday evening, the 16th of November, 1802, in consequence of a search-warrant, issued by the Magistrates at Union-Hall, Mr. Stafford, the Chief Clerk, attended by a numerous body of the Police Officers, went to the Oakley-Arms, Oakley-street, Lambeth, where they apprehended Colonel Edward Marcus Despard, and near forty labouring men and soldiers, many of them Irish. They were all taken immediately to the Police-Office, Borough, and after a short examination, committed to the county gaol.

On the following morning they were all brought up before the Magistrates at Union-Hall, who were assisted on the occasion by Sir Richard Ford.—The examination lasted nearly six hours, the result of which was, that the Colonel was committed to the county gaol; twelve of his low associates, (six of whom were soldiers,) were sent to Tothill Fields Bridewell, and twenty to the New-Prison, Clerkenwell. Ten other persons, who had been found in a different room, and who appeared to have no concern whatever with the Colonel's party, were immediately discharged.

The next day, at one o'clock, Colonel Despard, heavily ironed, accompanied by his wife and one of the soldiers, was brought to Lord Pelham's Office at Whitehall, where several members of the Cabinet were assembled. He under-
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went an examination of two hours and a half, and at half past three was committed to Newgate. Several persons, in the course of this day, were taken up on suspicion of being concerned with the Colonel's associates.

The charge against the Colonel was, for having administered a secret oath to divers persons, binding them to an active co-operation in the performance of certain treasonable practices; it is said the association consisted of several divisions. The life of our beloved Sovereign, it seems, was to have been attempted on Tuesday, the 23d of November, 1802, (the day his Majesty went in state to the House of Peers,) by a division of the conspirators, while the remainder were to attack the Tower, and other public places. It is difficult to imagine what the conspirators could have promised themselves from the perpetration of so atrocious a deed, from the execution of so mad and abominable a project.—Folly and wickedness must have combined in the devising of so foul and extraordinary a proceeding!

The Privy Council sat again on the Thursday morning, for the further examination of Colonel Despard, when several of the persons implicated with him were also brought forward. The examination lasted from ten till half-past four, when the Colonel was committed to Newgate.—Thos. Wood, John Francis, Thomas Broughton, and Charles Pendell, four of his low associates, were remanded to Tothill-fields Bridewell for further examination.—The Colonel, on an application to the Secretary of State, had his irons taken off at Whitehall, during the examination, and he returned to Newgate in a hackney coach, not ironed, but well guarded by a strong body of Police-Officers.

The Privy Council again met on the Friday morning for the further examination of Colonel Despard, &c.—Mr. Kirby, the keeper of Newgate, attended at ten o'clock with his prisoner. The deposition of the soldier was corroborated by

by the evidence of another man belonging to the same regiment of Guards. It further appeared in evidence, that two printed copies of the oath administered at the Oakley Arms were found in the Colonel's pocket when he was apprehended.

Colonel Despard's conduct, was on this, as on the former examinations, invariably the same; he was silent during the whole. After the evidence in this case was gone through, which did not occupy any considerable time, Colonel Despard was taken into one of the rooms over where the Council sat. The examination of three of the persons taken at the Oakley Arms then commenced, viz. Thomas Wood, Thomas Broughton, and John Francis; the latter was a soldier in the 1st regiment of Guards. What came out in evidence against these men did not transpire.

At four o'clock, Thomas Wood, and Thomas Broughton, the two first persons examined, were hand-cuffed together, and sent off under an escort, to Tothill-fields Bridewell; soon after Pendell and Francis were likewise hand-cuffed, and forwarded to the same prison, attended by the gaoler.—Previous to Colonel Despard's being consigned to the keeper, he was allowed to see and converse with Mrs. Despard, who had attended the whole morning in the anti-chamber for that purpose.—This conversation between Colonel Despard and his wife took place in the presence of Mr. Kirby, and in the same room where the Council sat.

The Privy Council, the more effectually to try the prisoners, issued a Special Commission, composed of four Judges, which was opened at the New Court House, Horsemonger-lane, Southwark, Jan. 20, for the trial of Despard and his associates. The judges were, Lord Ellenborough, Mr. Justice Le Blanc, Mr. Baron Thompson, and Mr. Justice Chambre.

On Monday Feb. 7, the indictment having been read,
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Marcus Despard was charged with a conspiracy, for attempting to put our sovereign to death, and to overthrow the Government—with that view, for seducing the defenders of our KING and Country to be their destroyers—and others were charged with having joined in this plot. The Chief Justice Ellenborough, in his address to the Grand Jury, maintained the crimes imputed in the accusation to be treason, both by the statute of Edward III. and the law of 1796. The Judge took these laws as he found them, expounded them by the plainest and most obvious interpretation; did state, and consistent with common sense and duty, could not but state, the alledged transgressions to be capital offences. The Grand Jury found, and must have found, bills. The nature and quality of the acts charged were unquestionable. The relevancy of the indictment was manifest. The acts and designs imputed were, not as in some former cases of doubtful tendency, circuitous operation, or difficult construction. If done or intended, they must be done or intended for one specific, direct, and destructive purpose. It therefore became a simple question of evidence. Despard was indicted for, first, compassing the King's death; second, to restrain and imprison his person; and, third, to dethrone him from the crown of these realms. The Attorney-General exhibited a clear, impartial, and liberal view of the overt acts necessary to constitute those treasons, and the witnesses requisite to prove the overt acts. Four witnesses directly and unequivocally swore to such acts, as committed by Despard. The concomitant circumstances supported and elucidated the depositions. Against such proof the accused adduced neither gainfaying testimony nor invalidating specific circumstances. He impugned the general credibility of the witnesses, and the improbability of the allegations, in their relation to the imputed purposes, and to his character. He brought no witnesses either to
 prove

prove that he had been elsewhere, and not at the meetings for the alledged conspiracy, or to prove, that what these asserted had not passed at those meetings: he merely said, they are accomplices, and therefore not competent. In confederate wickedness, if managed with secrecy, none but associates can be witnesses. Such, no doubt, are to be carefully watched; and the consistency of their asseverations is to be closely investigated. Here they all agreed, when cross-questioned by a very sagacious and acute lawyer. The result was the same, as when questioned by the Attorney-General; the chain perfectly adhered, and could only be supposed false on a presumption of premeditated skill and concerted ability, far beyond the rank and situation of the witnesses, and which no talents or knowledge could have supported throughout. Their story was so clearly told, and hung so well together, that impartial persons could disbelieve only on a scepticism which would prevent every evidence from being admissible. Any philosophical logician, applying the canons of moral evidence, must have admitted the depositions in question, in an inquiry of historical fact; because it had the constituents of credibility for it, without any attempt at direct invalidation. But a second objection was, the improbability of the conspiracy alledged. Would, it was said, any man in his senses propose so impracticable a scheme by such inadequate means? The very project supposes insanity. But the folly or infatuation of an alledged attempt is no evidence that it has not been made. The experience of every day proves that men, not insane, set about schemes as absurd and impracticable as any here alledged. An enthusiasm of fancy or passion overlooks all difficulties, and out of wishes generates hope and even confident expectation. Revolve the history of conspirators, and we find that they, as well as other projectors, most frequently were inspired by a quixotic extravagance of conception

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tion and anticipation. Such an argument could have no weight against direct and positive evidence. The argument, from the former conduct and reputation of Colonel Despard, proceeds upon a supposition of an uniform consistency in human actions and character. This presumption is totally contradicted by experience; and no investigation of an alledged matter of fact can admit general character against positive and particular testimony. But the certifications of his character applied to periods remote from the present, and could have no influence on our estimate of conduct, after such a change of circumstances. The Judge, in his charge to the Jury, demeaned himself as became his station and talents, and integrity by which it is filled. He gave the full weight to every particle of the evidence for the accused as for the crown. In no respect was it a party question. The Crown Lawyers wrested no facts; they merely urged the evidence as it came. The Chief Justice, with cool unbiassed judgment, recapitulated and stated its substance; the peers of the accused, after a very short consideration, found him guilty.

On Wednesday, Feb. 9, eleven of his associates were tried and nine found guilty, viz.

William Lander,
Thomas Broughton,
John Macnamara,
James Sedgwick Wratten,
John Wood,

John Francis,
Arthur Graham,
Thomas Newman, and
Daniel Tyndall,

But the Jury begged leave most earnestly, and respectfully to recommend Thomas Newman and Daniel Tyndall to mercy: as they conceived them to be much less criminal, in every particular, from the evidence given, than the rest of the unhappy prisoners; and on this ground humbly hoped the

the Court would be pleased to take cognizance of their representation.

Mr. Knapp, the Clerk of the Arraignment, then called upon the prisoners severally, and asked—"What have you to say, why the judgment of death should not be passed upon you?"

Colonel Despard.—"My Lords, and gentlemen of the Jury, if you will permit me, I wish to say a few words, but shall not long trespass on your time and patience.—In the awful situation in which I now stand before you, my lords and gentlemen,—with my ideas, and almost my whole frame, ready to spring, as it were, into another state of existence, I trust I shall be believed when I declare, that although I am convicted of *seducing soldiers*—it has been *on the evidence of men I have never spoken to in my life!*"

On the same question being put by Mr. Knapp to John Macnamara, he answered—

"My Lords and gentlemen of the jury, I beg your indulgence for a minute or two, while I solemnly declare, that every word sworn to by Windsor, so far as it respects me, is totally false and untrue."

The other prisoners, (except Tyndall, who was extremely agitated,) met their fate without offering a sentence in extenuation.

The Lord President then put on his cap, and after addressing Colonel Despard, and all the other prisoners at some length, in the course of which he recommended to them to make better use of the short remainder of their lives, than they had of the former part of them, in making their peace with their Creator—proceeded to pass sentence on the whole of the prisoners found guilty.

THE AWFUL SENTENCE!

"That you and every of you, be taken from hence, to the place from whence you came; and from thence be drawn

on a hurdle to the place of execution, there to be hanged by the neck, but not till you are quite dead; then to be cut down, your bowels taken out and cast into the fire before your faces; your heads to be taken off and your bodies quartered, which are then to be at his Majesty's disposal,—and the Lord have mercy on your souls!"

This dismal sentence was received by all the prisoners with a degree of composure, that would have done honour to a better cause.

T. Newman, D. Tyndall, and W. Lander were respited. The death-warrant ordering for execution Despard and his six associates, was received about six o'clock on Saturday afternoon, Feb. 19, which warrant contained a remission of part of the sentence.

"And whereas we have thought fit to remit part of the sentence, viz. the taking out and burning their bowels before their faces, and dividing the bodies of Edward Marcus Despard, J. Wood, J. Francis, Thomas Broughton, J. Sedgwick Wratten, A. Graham, and J. Macnamara, severally into four parts, our will and pleasure is, that execution be done upon the said Edward Marcus Despard, J. Wood, J. Francis, Thomas Broughton, J. Sedgwick Wratten, A. Graham, and J. Macnamara, by their being drawn and hanged, and having their heads severed from their bodies, according to the said Sentence only, at the usual place of execution, on Monday next, the 21st day of February; and for so doing this shall be your Warrant. Given at our Court at Saint James's, this 16th day of February, 1803, in the 43d year of our reign.

By His Majesty's Command,
(Signed)

"PELHAM."

To our trusty and well-beloved Sheriff of the County of Surrey, and others whom it may concern.

With the exception of Colonel Despard, they all attended Divine Service yesterday at the chapel in the prison. The

Colonel

Colonel refused any clerical aid, saying, that he wished not, during the very short time allotted for his existence, to be encumbered with the ceremonies of religion. Macnamara, since the fatal intimation of Saturday evening, was attended by a Roman Catholic Clergyman—another fellow-sufferer by the Rev. Rowland Hill—and the other four by a Clergyman of the Church of England.

Their wives were allowed to see them yesterday from two to four o'clock, when they took their last farewell!—The parting-scene between the Colonel and Mrs. Despard was one of the most affecting which imagination can conceive! She returned about five o'clock, in a coach, and, in a state of the utmost frenzy and despair, demanded another interview with the dear object of her affections. All access, however, was denied her, agreeably to the orders issued to the keeper of the prison; and Mrs. Despard was at last carried off in a state of the greatest delirium.

From the very humane application of Lord Nelson, who spoke so very handsomely of Colonel Despard's former conduct in life, some faint hopes were cherished; but the order for the execution dissipated at once every idea from his mind, and he indicated the most manly resignation.

Seven shells or coffins, were brought into the prison, to receive the bodies, and two large bags filled with saw-dust, and the block on which they were to be beheaded.

A report prevailing that a riot was to take place, there was every necessary precaution. Mr. Townsend, that active and diligent Bow-street officer, remained all night at the public house, exactly facing the prison, with a very strong party of his brother officers or Patrole.

There were six rockets, of a pound each, placed on the top of Mr. Ives's house in the prison, to be fired off as a signal to the military, in readiness to attend in case of any riot taking place.

On account of a rumour prevalent on Sunday that they were to suffer at an early hour yesterday morning, every avenue leading to the prison was completely crowded at a very early hour in the morning.

At six o'clock Lord Cathcart, at the head of the Life Guards, arrived, and took their station at the end of the different roads at the Obelisk, in St. George's-fields; whilst all the officers, runners, and constables, from Bow-street, Queen-square, Marlborough-street, Hatton-garden, Worship-street, Whitechapel, Shadwell, &c. &c. beside the numerous tribe of petty constables, formed a rank of two deep, from one end to the other of the front part of the prison, keeping a clear space of about twenty yards from the prison. There were parties of the Life Guards riding up and down the roads.

At six o'clock the ordinary of Clerkenwell prison, and the Rev. Mr. Griffith arrived, to attend the prisoners. On Mr. Ives's going to Colonel Despard, thinking to prevail on him to have a clergyman, the Colonel said that he understood very well what he was about, and that such an interference would only perplex him the more; but he intimated, that he wished to say a few words to the populace, previously to his execution. He then washed himself, put on clean linen, &c. with the greatest seeming composure, and drank two glasses of wine. Upon the Colonel coming out, he shook hands very cordially with his Solicitor, and returned him many thanks for his kind attention. Then observing the sledge and apparatus, he smilingly cried out—"Ha! ha! What nonsensical mummery is this!"

Macnamara, about the same time, confessed, and received the sacrament, and passed the little time he had in devotion.

The other five were brought into one place, and there attended by the Ordinary of Clerkenwell Prison.

At

At seven o'clock, there were two cart horses brought into prison, harnessed, in order to draw the hurdle and two trusses of straw to spread on the hurdle.

A regiment of cavalry from Croydon, at the Elephant and Castle, Kent-street, and several companies of Foot soldiers, placed from the King's Bench to Blackman-street, and upward, attended for the aid of the civil power. The roofs of all the surrounding houses were crowded beyond example—the windows, the fields, and from every quarter that afforded the least prospect.

The Bow-street officers went into the prison at half past six, and drew up in two ranks from the prison-gate inside up to the keeper's house, leaving a clear passage in the center for the Sheriff and his company on his arrival.

Mr. Ives then ascended the platform, and placed about 50 of the Bow-street and other officers to do duty there. The gallows was erected on the platform, directly over the gateway leading into the prison. There were four small bags filled with saw-dust hung up against the gallows. The block was placed just by. At ten minutes past seven o'clock the seven black shells for the bodies were then brought up, all of which were by far too small, and two large sacks of saw-dust.

About 40 minutes past seven the Sheriff, Sir Richard Ford, and Mr. Carpenter Smith, arrived in their carriages, and went into the keeper's house, where they remained in consultation about ten minutes. Orders were then issued to prepare the prisoners, on which their irons were taken off, their hands tied very close at the wrists, and then pinioned.

At eight o'clock the hurdle was brought to the door whence the prisoners were to come forth, two trusses of straw spread in it, and the horses put to. An incident worthy of remark, because generally noticed, took place. The horses kept

kept their heads turned behind them, looking, as if with eager curiosity to the prisoners.

At last, at half past eight o'clock precisely, Macnamara came out, pinioned, with a Prayer-book in his hands. He was a good-looking man, about thirty-six years of age, and seemed remarkably penitent. Then followed Graham. They stepped into the hurdle, and an executioner on each side of them with a naked cutlass. They were drawn up through the prison yard as far as the Lodge door, where they alighted. They then advanced up stairs to a room where they remained till their fellow-convicts joined them by the same ceremony. Graham appeared to be beyond 65 years of age, having in his shoes silver buckles, with a plain and blunt deportment.

The two next brought out were James Sedgwick Wratton, and Thomas Broughton. They stepped into the hurdle with ease and alacrity, and were conveyed to their companions in the manner already described.

Wood and Francis, the two soldiers, and dressed in their uniform, about 24 years of age each, advanced next in order. Francis was remarkably stout. They seemed to smile when placed on the hurdle.

Then appeared Colonel Despard. He was dressed in a blue double breasted coat, with gilt buttons; cream coloured waistcoat, with narrow gold-lace binding; a flannel inside vest, with scarlet top turned over; grey breeches, long boots, and a brown furtout. He looked remarkably well; he stepped into the hurdle with much fortitude or indifference, having an executioner on his right and left, and on the same seat, with naked cutlasses. He was thus conducted to the outer lodge, about 10 or 15 yards distance, whence he ascended the stair-case leading to the place of execution.

We shall now lead the reader to the platform, where we found the Sheriff, Sir Richard Ford, Mr. Carpenter Smith, and

and some other magistrates, the Rev. Mr. Winkworth, besides several spectators, who crowded the place, among whom we noticed the two sons of Lord Uxbridge, the Honourable Charles and Arthur Uptons, two Colonels of the Guards, &c. &c.

The prisoners being then in the apartment under the platform, as already described, they had to ascend a step-ladder, one at a time. The first who appeared on the platform was John Macnamara. The rope being placed round his neck, then thrown over the beam, and made fast, there was a white cap put on his head, when he exclaimed—"Lord Jesus have mercy upon me! Oh! Lord, look down with pity on me!" and there he stood, praying very fervently, with a book in his hand, while the executioners went down for another.

Graham came second. He looked pale and ghastly, but spoke not.

Wratten was the third. He ascended the scaffold with much firmness.

Broughton, the fourth, smiled as he ran up the scaffold stairs, but as soon as the rope was fastened round his neck, he turned pale and smiled no more. He exhorted the crowd in these words: "I hope that every young man who witnesses my fate, will avoid public houses, and take a warning! Should they mix with certain companies, they will, perhaps, see more executions of a similar nature!" He joined in prayer with much earnestness. Wood was the fifth, Francis the sixth. The latter ascended the scaffold with a composure which he preserved to the last.—Wood and Broughton were equally composed. Of all of them Francis was the best looking—tall, handsome, and well made.

Now started forward to the public view Colonel Despard. He assisted the executioner in adjusting the rope round his neck, and was particular in placing the noose under his left ear.

ear. The two clergymen ascended. The Roman catholic priest then read to Macnamara, and the ordinary to the other five. Colonel Despard still declined any religious ceremony, observing, that although he thought the institution of religion polite, he had no faith in its efficacy.

The Colonel also observed to Francis, who stood next him—"What an amazing crowd!" Then looking up, " 'Tis very cold; I think we shall have some rain!"

The Colonel ascended the scaffold with great firmness. His countenance underwent not the slightest change, while the awful ceremony of fastening the rope round his neck, and placing the cap on his head, was performing. He looked at the multitude assembled with perfect calmness. The clergyman who ascended the scaffold after the prisoners were tied up, spoke to him a few words as he passed.—The Colonel bowed, and thanked him.

The ceremony of fastening the prisoners being finished, the Colonel advanced as near as he could to the edge of the scaffold, and addressed the multitude as follows:

"Fellow Citizens,

"You here see a man who, having served his country faithfully, honourably, and even usefully, for thirty years, and upwards, is now come to suffer death, for a crime of which he is as perfectly innocent as any indifferent person among you—[*Huzza! Huzza!*].—I know that, from having been inimical to the bloody, cruel, coercive, and unconstitutional measures of Ministers, they have determined to sacrifice me under what they are pleased to term a legal pretext.—I have ever been the strenuous advocate and warm friend of liberty, suffering humanity, and especially of the poor. I have nothing farther to say, but that I wish you, my fellow-citizens, health, happiness, and prosperity; and though I shall not live to experience the blessings of the
god-like

god-like change, be assured, citizens, that the period will come, *and that speedily*, when the glorious cause of Liberty shall effectually triumph over Tyranny, Cruelty, and Oppression."

This energetic, but inflammatory appeal, was followed by such enthusiastic plaudits, that the Sheriff hinted to the Clergyman to withdraw, and forbade Colonel Despard to proceed. The cap was then drawn over their eyes, during which the Colonel was observed again to fix the knot under his left ear, and, at seven minutes before nine o'clock the signal being given, the platform dropped, and they were all launched into eternity.

From the precaution taken by the Colonel, he appeared to suffer very little, neither did the others struggle much, except Broughton, who had been the most indecently profane of the whole. Wood, the soldier, died very hard. The Executioners went under, and kept pulling them by the feet. Several drops of blood fell from the fingers of Macnamara and Wood, during the time they were suspended.

After hanging thirty-seven minutes, the Colonel's body was cut down, at half an hour past nine o'clock, and being stripped of his coat and waistcoat, it was laid upon saw-dust, with the head reclined upon a block. A surgeon then in attempting to sever the head from the body by a common dissecting knife, missed the particular joint aimed at, when he kept haggling it, till the executioner was obliged to take the head between his hands, and to twist it several times round, when it was with difficulty severed from the body. It was then held up by the executioner, who exclaimed—"Behold the head of EDWARD MARCUS DESPARD, a Traitor!" The same ceremony followed with the others respectively; and the whole concluded by ten o'clock.

The bodies were then put into their different shells, and were delivered to their friends for interment.

Colonel Despard, to the very last, obstinately refused all clerical assistance, neither would he join in the Lord's prayer, but, at parting, he affectionately shook hands with Mr. Winckworth.

The Rev. Mr. Winckworth attended the Protestants, and Mr. Griffith, who officiated for Quigley, administered consolation to Macnamara.

The crowd at the entrance of Horsemonger-lane was immense—as the time of execution drew near, the people from all parts came with such force as to bear down all opposition. Those who had been in dry situations were pushed into the middle of the road, where they stood almost up to the knees in mud. Several lost their shoes by the continual pushing and jostling. Many fainted, both men and women—of the latter, however, there were but few. While the heads were exhibiting, the populace took off their hats.

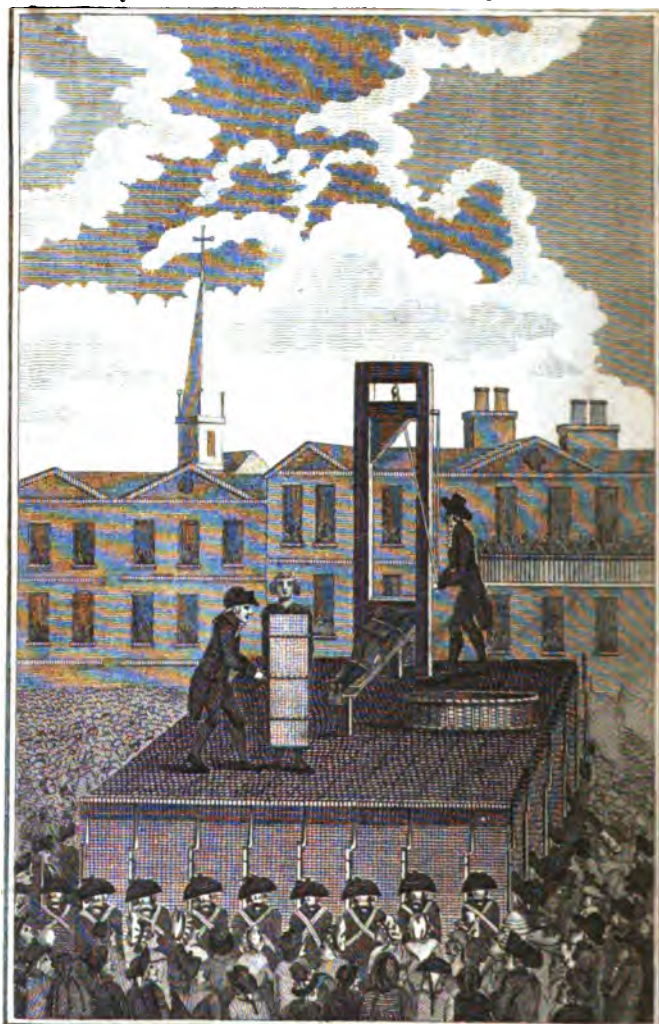
There was not the least tendency to riot or disturbance. The precautions, however, taken by government, were certainly proper.

During the whole awful ceremony, Colonel Despard appeared perfectly calm, and his penetrating eye sparkled with fire and intelligence.

Col. Despard repeatedly asserted his own innocence: but how little avails such a declaration against convincing proof. But while we admit that he suffered justly, we cannot but regret that a man of talents and accomplishments should have so dreadfully misemployed his advantages.

The remains of Col. Despard were interred in the burial ground of St. Paul's cathedral. The remains of the other six were deposited in one grave, in the vault under the Rev. Mr. Harper's chapel, in the London-road, St. George's-fields. A vast concourse of people attended the awful ceremony.

Engraved for the Carlton House Magazine.



The Execution of
LOUIS XVI,
late King of France.

mony. Mrs. Despard is a woman of colour, whom the Colonel married in the bay of Honduras. It was reported that Lord Nelson had taken her under his protection; but this was one of the fabrications of the day.

Despard was a man of very strong passions, susceptible of kind and benevolent sentiments, as well as a gloomy and violent resentment. He had been disappointed: rage against certain officers of the crown rose to a hatred against the Crown, Government, and Constitution; a sensibility which outwent magnanimity and justice—enhanced disappointment—disappointment generated discontent, which fostered sedition until it matured into treason—and treason brought death. From his first dissatisfaction to his melancholy fate, Despard presents to us a man of high spirit and keen feelings, neither guided by wisdom nor fortified by virtue. His unhappy accomplices are dismal instances of the danger of ignorant men leaving their humble sphere of useful labour, to engage in pursuits for which they are totally unfit.

What a contrast does the manner in which this traitor was executed, afford to the mode of executions conducted in France! Colonel Despard wished to address the populace; his wish was immediately complied with.—He spoke against the government of the country; he was suffered to proceed, without interruption, to the end. Around the place of execution, none but civil officers were seen; and among the thousands that surrounded the prison to behold the place of execution, not an armed soldier was to be discovered. When Louis XVI. was conveyed to the scaffold, he too wished to address the people. He began to speak, and instantly an order was given to sound all the trumpets and drums to drown his voice—he was not suffered to be heard. Far as the eye could reach, none were to be seen but cavalry and infantry surrounding the scaffold.

*Deaths of Remarkable CHARACTERS.**The Rev. Mr. Chamberlain, of Long Clawson, Leicestershire.*

ON Sunday, the 13th of March, 1803, died suddenly at Long Clawson, the Rev. Mr. Chamberlain: he was conversing with a few friends who had given him a call in their way to church, and appeared as well as usual, when he observed the time was expired, and immediately rose from his chair, dropped down, and never stirred more.—It is somewhat remarkable, Mr. Chamberlain the preceding Sunday preached from these words “Brethren, the time is short.”—In this discourse he particularly noticed the many sudden deaths that had occurred, and earnestly exhorted his hearers to be ready for the solemn event.

John Hosier, of Cambarren, near Stirling.

On the 16th of January, 1803, at Cambarren, near Stirling, James Hosier, aged 104 years. He was born in 1699, while his father, who belonged to the parish of Cragunnock, was butler in the house of Blair Drummond. He was about 45 years old when he first married, after which he served two years as a common soldier. During his life he had two wives, by whom he had fifteen children; his second marriage was in 1772. He was 83 years old when he had his last child, and, though repeatedly exposed to the infection of the small-pox, in his own family and otherwise, yet he was not affected till the age of ninety-five, when he suffered under an uncommon load of small-pox; having recovered, he enjoyed a better state of health than he had done for some time before. He was naturally short-sighted, but in the eightieth year of his age his sight was so much renewed, that though reading a small print, he never had occasion to use glasses; at this period of his life, he

all

all at once, gave up drinking spirituous liquors, to which, for a long time, he had been so much addicted as to produce frequent intoxication. His body was well made, and stout, was five feet five inches high; he walked remarkably straight, his chest was prominent, his neck thick and short, and his head of the ordinary size. He lived chiefly on coarse country food, except that, during the last ten years of his life, he became particularly fond of tea. He wrought mostly in the fields at laborious work, which he continued till within a month of his death. In September, 1802, he walked for half a mile with a load upon his back, which any ordinary man could with difficulty have raised from the ground.

MANTUA.

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*A Singular Anecdote of OLIVER CROMWELL.*

THE night after Charles I. was beheaded, Lord Southampton, with a friend, obtained leave to sit up with the body, which lay in the Banqueting-house at Whitehall. While they were employed in the melancholy scene, about one o'clock in the morning, they heard the noise of a person coming up the stairs; soon after the door opened, and a man entered, so muffled up in a cloak, that his face could not be distinguished; he advanced slowly towards the body, and having considered it some time with great attention, sighed, and uttered these words: "Cruel necessity!" he then retired with the same solemnity he had used in coming. Lord Southampton averred, that from stature, voice, and gait, he was certain that this person was Oliver Cromwell, and from his behaviour on this occasion inferred, that his heart was not so destitute of sensibility as the royalists have been assiduous in representing it.

This anecdote was related by Lord Peterborough to Mr. Spence.

Bedford-Square.

MANTUA.

The

*The ANACONDA, a large and terrible RATTLE-SNAKE.—  
The Existence of these Wonderful Creatures proved.*

IN the Star of August 7, 1800, is inserted a letter from Amboyna, of which the following is an abridgment:

“A Prow putting into Golontala, in the island of Celebes, one of the crew went into the woods; and on his return, lying down on the sands, was seized by a large serpent, which, previous to swallowing, crushed him to death by the constriction of his folds, wound about his body. The animal was from twenty-eight to thirty feet long, and about the thickness of a moderate-sized man.” To which is added, “and this furnishes a proof, that similar facts, stated by naturalists, to which many have refused their belief, are entitled to more deference than they generally meet with.”

That there is a species of serpent, even exceeding the above dimensions, can be no reasonable doubt. Not to insist upon the truth of Lucan’s poetical relation of the monster which the Roman army in Africa attacked, and at last subdued, by their warlike engines (although it is probable there is some foundation for the incident), there are modern proofs enough of the existence of this large species of snake, some of which I shall adduce.

The following was first published about fifty years since; and may be found, signed by R. Edwyn, under the article *Trinquelemale*, in Brice’s *Topographical Dictionary*. It was, undoubtedly, the original of many spurious and fabricated publications at the time. As they copied from one another, and each copier adding something to increase the marvellous, the relation at last became absurd, ridiculous, and incredible. It was in this state when it found its way into that very respectable book, *Dodsley’s Annual Register*, “with all its imperfections on its head.”—However, enough of the original was left to shew whence it was taken.

In

In this place, I can only do as above, considerably shorten the account: but Edwyn's letter contains many curious particulars incapable of abridgement, and highly worth attention as an interesting piece of natural history.

"The commands of my superiors carrying me to Ceylon, I had an apartment in a house facing the woods. At some distance stood three or four palm trees. One morning, as I was looking that way, I thought a large arm of one of them seemed in strange commotions, bending and twisting about, often striking one end to the earth, then raising it again, and losing itself among the leaves. Asking a Ceylonese to explain this appearance, he informed me, that it was one of their great serpents, which had taken possession of the tree, and darted his head now and then to the ground to seize any animal that might be passing. Twelve of us in a body went, on horseback, in order to destroy him.—We concealed ourselves until within shot, and fired, but without success.—The next day, considerably reinforced, we came again. While we were consulting how to take our measures, a large tyger (with which that country abounds) came near the tree—the serpent, quick as thought, dropped and seized him across the back. The tyger\*, constantly checked in his endeavour to escape (the tail of his adversary being folded round the trunk), after a day and night's struggle, was entirely subdued, and dragged to the tree, where the serpent broke his bones by a forcible constriction of his folds round it and the creature. Another night was spent in preparing the prey for deglutition, by stretching it out as long as possible, and covering it with saliva to facilitate the passage of the æsophagus. In the act of swallowing, the people killed him with clubs, without danger or difficulty." For the connecting, and, indeed, most interesting passages, I must refer to the original.

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\* Which, in the Annual Register is changed into a buffalo.  
Mention

Mention of the gigantic snake may be found in a late description of Surinam, by J. Stedman, who resided in that country as a captain in the Dutch service. His account, as far as relates to the size of the creature (one of which, by the assistance of his negroes, he killed himself), confirms the above, although the circumstances are different, as is the name: in Surinam it is called, the Aboma. I shall quote a short passage just as I find it; "A detachment of eighty marines one day marching through a thick wood, imagined, to a man, that they were stepping, one after another, over a large fallen tree that obstructed their way; until, at length, it began to move, and proved to be a full-grown serpent of the Aboma kind; measuring, by computation, between thirty and forty feet in length."

As I apprehend, the marvellous part of these accounts is the size of the reptile; if that can be proved, the rest becomes credible.

On the first exhibition of Sir A. Lever's Museum, he was asked for an Anaconda: he shewed a serpent's skin of about six feet in length, which really belonged to that animal; but was told by the enquirer, that as nothing made the creature an object of curiosity but its size, it was necessary for him to procure a specimen of the serpent full-grown. He promised to use his endeavours to obtain it; and in two or three years had three skins sent him from Ceylon. They were placed (when at Leicester-house) near the window in the staircase. The longest appeared between twenty and thirty feet in length, and more than three feet broad, making the snake a foot in diameter. As it is highly probable that they are still part of the present Museum, near Blackfriars-bridge, those who doubt \* the existence of such monsters, may give that credit to their own eyes, which they refuse to those accounts they stigmatise by the appellation

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\* See the Museum.

of *travellers stories*. Among these was esteemed Byron's account of the Patagonians; a discovery by no means new; but as many years had elapsed since these large personages were seen, it was treated, and of course disbelieved, as a novelty. One of the midshipmen was so thoroughly moved at the sneers of incredulity, that he published an advertisement, signed with his name, declaring he had seen these people, and inviting those who doubted their existence to face him and contradict his assertion.

In truth, whoever makes the productions of their own country the standard by which all others are to be measured, must lessen, enlarge, and alter a great part of the creation. We may, with propriety, withhold our belief of any new subject, unless proof be adduced; but after that, to refuse it, is rather a mark of prejudice, than of an enlightened mind. The accounts of our great hogs, sheep, and oxen, might as justly be discredited by a Malay, as the monstrous serpents of tropical climates are by us. And, without going out of our own island, there are thousands who never saw any other than the small wild gooseberry, that cannot stretch their imaginations sufficiently to conceive one of four inches in circumference.

*Exeter.*

J. D.

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A Remarkable OAK.

MR. Edward Yard, Joiner, of Martock, in Somersetshire, sawing an oaken plank, discovered in the veins of the wood the exact resemblance of a female in full dress: the hair frizzled in the modern taste, and fastened behind; the bonnet of the same shape as the ladies have recently worn them; the eyes, nose, and mouth, are very distinct; the gown represents a dark coloured satten pinned. There is a handkerchief, but the tucker is very visible. Numbers of people came to see this natural curiosity.

Bedford-square.

MANTU

*An Account of that celebrated Pile of Antiquity, STONEHENGE,
on Salisbury Plain.*

STONEHENGE stands upon that spacious track of land called Salisbury Plain, in the lordship of Little Ambresbury, about three miles westward from Ambresbury town, in Wiltshire. It stands upon a hill, inclosed by a circular ditch or trench, near thirty feet in breadth, which being passed, you ascend about thirty-five yards before you reach the extremity of the work.

The Saxon name, which it now bears, signifies simply Hanging-stones, (from the transverse imposts at the top) as the English reader might easily suppose. We can scarcely be of opinion with Grose and some others, that the term was intended to convey the awkward idea of a vast stone gallows.

This most conspicuous temple for druidical worship, and as we verily believe (to use the expression) the archiepiscopal seat of that worship, consists of the remains of two circular and two oval ranges of rough stones, having one common centre. The outer circle is 108 feet in diameter, and, when perfect, consisted of thirty upright stones, seventeen of which are still standing, and seven more lying on the ground, some whole, and others broken. The upright stones are from eighteen to twenty feet high, from six to seven feet broad, and about three feet thick, placed about three feet from each other. At the top they are joined by imposts, with tenons fitted to mortises, for keeping them in due position. The upright stones are wrought with a chisel, and tapered towards the top, but the imposts are plain, having no sort of decorations.

The inner circle is about eight feet from the outer one, and consisted originally of forty stones, of which there are about nineteen left, eight of which are fallen down, and the
remaining



The STONEHENGE,
On Salisbury Plain, a Wonderful Remnant of Antiquity



remaining eleven standing. Between these two circles is a walk of about 300 feet in circumference, and from which the temple being viewed, it has a most surprising and awful effect on the spectator.

The name of Stonehenge being purely Saxon, has occasioned many disputes among the learned; but although the famous Inigo Jones has endeavoured to prove it to be a Danish monument, yet that assertion of his only remains a proof that he was utterly unacquainted with history; a fault too common among those who have made great proficiency in other sciences. Others have as ignorantly supposed that it was erected by Ambrosius Aurelius, the famous British commander, when the Saxons first invaded this island; but those who are acquainted with the circumstances under which that hero laboured, and the religion of which he was a zealous professor, will not hesitate one moment in declaring this notion to be such a mistake as has no foundation in the nature or reason of things, nor even corroborated by oral tradition.

We are told by Dr. Stukely, whose great knowledge in antiquities will hardly be questioned, that it was called by the ancient Britons, Choir-Gaur, which he imagines must signify the great church; but with all deference to the opinion of that great man, we must beg leave to observe, that there is no such word as Choir in the ancient British language, although it might have been given to this monument by the Romans, and from them adopted by the natives towards the decline of the empire.

It was called Chorea-Gigantum, or the Giant's Dance, during the barbarous times of monkish ignorance; but this was only one of their idle dreams, to impose on the credulity of their votaries. And we may safely assert, without a doubt, that it was erected long before the ancient inhabitants entered into a correspondence or commerce with either

the Phœnicians or Belgians, and probably about the time they began to join human inventions to the simplicity of patriarchal worship and government.

A large stone lying upon another, at some distance from the rest, which is so exactly poised that little strength is required to remove it, has given rise to various conjectures, as well as to many fables in the days of Roman superstition; one of which is, that the uppermost of these stones was thrown by the devil at a monk, but only barely struck his heel, and what confirms the ignorant in this story, is, that the stone has really a hole, much resembling the print of a man's heel.

Some labourers digging near the place in the reign of Henry VIII. found a plate of solid tin, which Dr. Stukely supposes, from there being some engraved characters upon it, the time when it was erected might be ascertained, as well as the purpose for which it was first designed. But in this we think the doctor mistaken, for had the characters been British, and as ancient as the structure itself, it would have contradicted what we are told by Cæsar, Tacitus, and all the other Roman writers, that the Britons did not know the use of letters, and that the accounts of their different achievements were conveyed to posterity by tradition.

All that we are able to learn concerning this famous plate is, that the labourers who discovered it saw some rude characters engraven on it, and not knowing its value threw it away as of no manner of use, and is now irrecoverably lost.

The deep trench, which encloses the temple is about 100 feet from the centre circle. It has three entrances over this trench, one of which is apparently the most considerable, and, if we may be allowed the expression, the portico faces the north-east. The number of stones (though the vulgar ridiculously supposed they never could be justly counted) of which this ancient temple is composed, is 140; and being of an enormous size, one of them is com-
puted

puted to weigh 40 tons, and to require 140 oxen to remove it. Many wild conjectures have been formed in what manner they were brought here, and placed in their present position, as the adjoining plain has not any quarries, nor, as we are told, was the use of geometrical machines known by the ancient inhabitants of Britain.

They have been considered by some to be a composition of what is now called artificial stone; but this conjecture is so wild and extravagant, that it only requires ocular demonstration to disprove it. Others, particularly Dr. Stukely, have imagined, with more reason, that the ancients were acquainted with the mechanical powers, and that these stones were brought from Aubrey, near Marlborough.

That the Druids were not ignorant of geometry, is beyond a doubt; but as for the stones being brought from Aubrey, we must differ in opinion with that learned gentleman, because, upon the most critical examination of the nature and texture of the Aubrey quarries, and comparing the stones with those of this temple, there is a very material difference, the former being extremely hard, and those of the latter much resembling Purbeck marble; nay, while the writer of this, with other gentlemen were on the spot, a learned gentleman scraped some part of one, when it appeared to be of the same nature, and, as he said, there was not the least doubt but the stones had been originally brought from that peninsula, by machines constructed for that purpose, although the knowledge of that valuable art might have been lost long before the arrival of Julius Cæsar in this island. Stones of as great a magnitude were raised for the building of Solomon's temple on mount Moriah; and if the people of the East were acquainted with geometry, there is no doubt but the inhabitants of the Western parts were so likewise; especially as we may reasonably conclude they both derived their knowledge from the same original fountain.

Indeed, Dr. Stukely imagines, that the Tyrians, Phœnicians,

nicians, or, as they are called in the Paralepomean, Philistines, instructed the Druids how to raise those stones, and place them in their present positions. But had he considered that the Tyrians only came into this island for the purposes of commerce, and that their stay must have been no longer than what was necessary to purchase the goods they came for, he would have been satisfied in his own mind that they had no time to convey the knowledge of the sciences. And the present practice of all the commercial states of Europe is a stronger argument against the doctor's opinion.

Many of our readers are, without doubt, well acquainted with the trade carried on in the East-Indies, on the coast of Guinea, to Hudson's Bay, and many other parts of the habitable world. But do we use any means whatever to make those people acquainted with the arts and sciences? No, those who are intent on promoting commerce, have seldom any views beyond that of interest; and as avarice is the predominant principle, so they imagine, that were those people with whom they correspond, and from whom they attain their affluence, once made acquainted with the useful, or polite arts, they would know their own importance, and, as rational creatures, enjoy those advantages to which they are entitled with the rest of mankind.

There are great numbers of sepulchres round this famous monument, or, as they are called, Barrows, being covered with earth, and raised in the form of a bowl-dish whelmed down. They extend to a considerable distance from the temple, but they are so placed as to be all in view of it. Such as have been opened were found to contain either human skeletons, or ashes of burnt bones, together with warlike instruments, and such other things as the deceased used when alive. In one of them opened in 1723 by Dr. Stukeley, was an urn, containing ashes, some bones, and other matters, which had resisted the violence of the fire, and by the collar-bone, and one of the jaw-bones, which were still
entire,

entire, it was judged that the person buried must have been about fourteen years old, and there being several female trinkets, the doctor supposed it was a girl. There was also in the grave the head of a javelin, which induced the same learned gentleman to conclude that the female had been a heroine. The trinkets consisted of a great number of glass and amber beads of different shapes, sizes, and colours, together with a sharp bodkin, round at one end, and pointed at the other.

The doctor found in some others of those sepulchres human bones, together with those of horses, deer, dogs, and other animals, and in one was a brass sword, together with one of those ancient instruments called a celt, supposed to have been used by the Druids in cutting off the mistletoe from the oak.

There was among other curiosities dug up in one of the barrows, a curious piece of sculpture in alabaster, of an oval form, about two feet in length, and one in the broadest part of the diameter. In the middle is represented a woman, habited as a queen, with her globe, sceptre, crown, and mantle of state: in a compartment over her head are three figures, supposed to represent the three persons of the Holy Trinity; and round the sides are angels intermixed with some of the apostles. The exquisite workmanship of the woman, who seems intended for the Virgin Mary; the strong as well as tender expression in her features, and the elegance of the drapery, shew it to be the work of a very skilful artist. This curiosity was seen by the person who describes it, in a public-house at a small village called Shrawton, about six miles to the north-west of Stonehenge. But if these figures have any relation to the mysteries of the Christian religion, it is evident this work is much more modern than many of the antiquities found on Salisbury-Plain, and probably of a much later date than the barrow in which it was found.

We may conclude, from these sepulchres being within sight of the temple, that, like Christians of the present age, the ancient Britons thought it was most proper to bury their dead adjoining to those places where they worshipped the Supreme Being. Indeed, all worship indicates a state of futurity, and they might reasonably imagine that no place was so proper for depositing the relics of their departed friends, as the spot dedicated to the service of that Being, with whom they hoped to live for ever. The sentiment is altogether natural, no objection can be made against it, while the depositories of the dead are detached from populous towns or cities; but no man can excuse the present mode of crowding corrupted bodies into vaults under churches, adjoining to the most public streets, when the noxious effluvia may be attended with fatal consequences to the survivors.

An Authentic Account of the DREADFUL FIRE OF LONDON, which began at a Baker's Shop in Pudding-Lane, on Monday, the 2d of September, 1666, and which consumed 89 Churches, a great Number of Public Buildings, and 13,200 Dwelling-Houses.

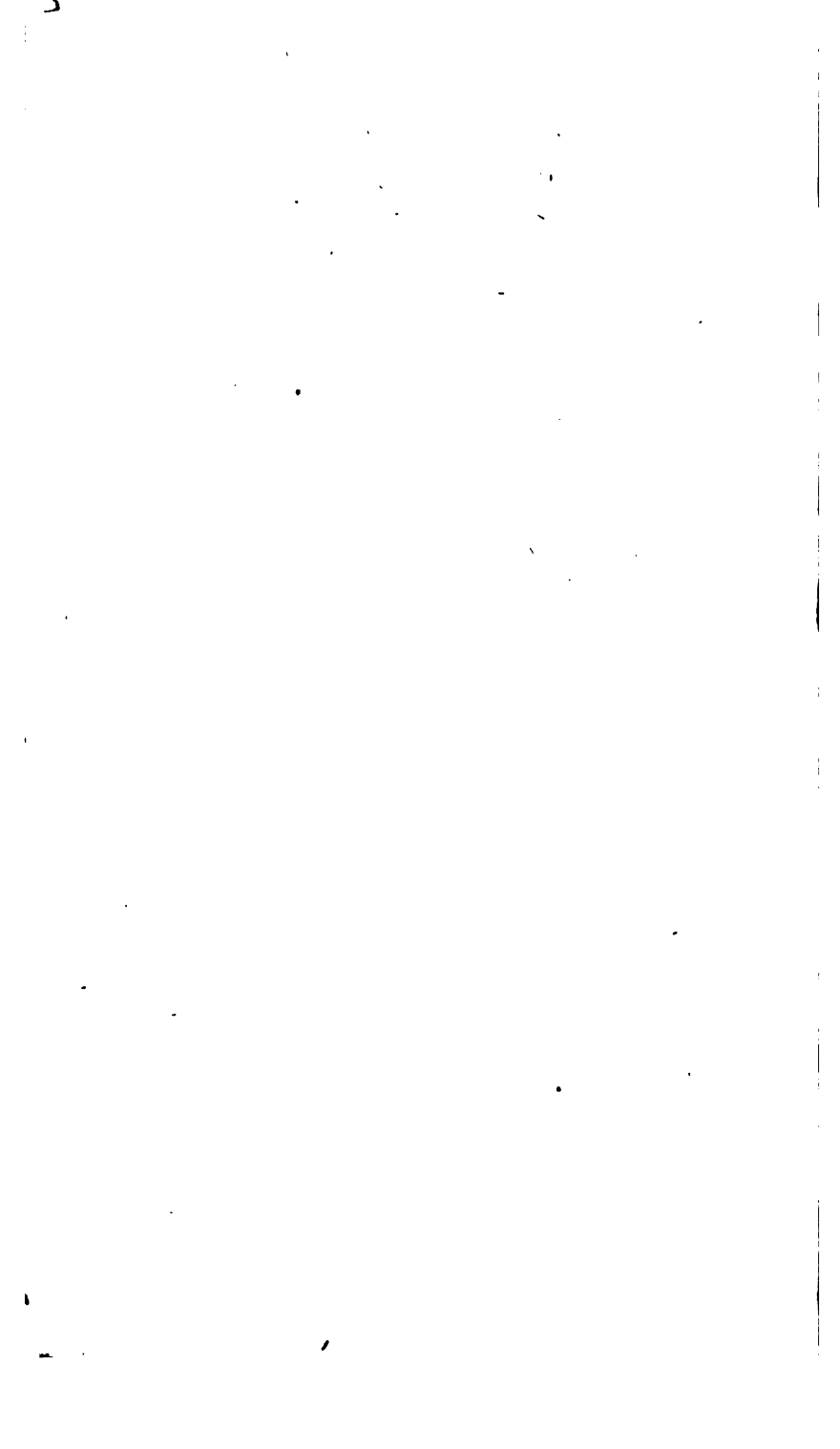
THE citizens of London were scarcely settled in their habitations after the dreadful calamity of the plague, (a particular account of which is given in our Museum, page 86) than they were disturbed by a disaster much more sudden and unexpected, THE FIRE OF LONDON, as we appear by the following extract taken from the London Gazette published at that time:

Whitehall, September 8, 1666.

"On the second instant, at one of the clock in the morning, there happened to break out a sad and deplorable fire, in Pudding-lane, near Fish-street, which falling out at that hour of the night, and in a quarter of the town,



THE FIRE OF LONDON, 1666.



so close built with wooden pitched houses, spread itself so far before day, and with such destruction to the inhabitants and neighbours, that care was not taken for the timely preventing the further diffusion of it, by pulling down houses, as ought to have been; so that this lamentable fire in a short time became too big to be mastered by any engines or working near it. It fell out most unhappily too, that a violent easterly wind fomented it, and kept it burning all that day, and the night following, spreading itself up to Gracechurch-street, and downwards to Cannon-street to the water-side, as far as the Three Cranes in the Vintry.

“ The people in all parts about it were distracted by the vastness of it, and their particular care to carry away their goods. Many attempts were made to prevent the spreading of it by pulling down houses, and making great intervals, but all in vain, the fire seizing upon the timber and rubbish, and so continuing itself, even through those spaces, and raging in a bright flame all Monday and Tuesday, notwithstanding his majesty's own, and his royal highness's indefatigable and personal pains to apply all possible remedies to prevent it, calling upon and helping the people with their guards, and a great number of nobility and gentry unwearied assisting therein, for which they were requited with a thousand blessings from the poor distressed people.

“ By the favour of God, the wind slackened a little on Tuesday night, and the flames meeting with brick buildings at the Temple, by little and little it was observed to lose its force on that side, so that on Wednesday morning we began to hope well, and his royal highness never despairing or slackening his personal care, wrought so well that day, assisted in some parts by the lords of the council before and behind it, that a stop was put to it at the Temple Church, near Holborn-bridge, Pie-corner, Aldersgate, Cripplegate, near

the lower end of Coleman-street, at the end of Basinghall-street, by the Postern, at the upper end of Bishopsgate-street, and Leadenhall-street, at the standard in Cornhill, at the church in Fenchurch-street, near Clothworkers-hall in Mincing-lane, at the middle of Mark-lane, and at the Tower-dock.

“ On Thursday, by the blessing of God, it was wholly beat down and extinguished. But so as that evening it unhappily burst out again afresh at the Temple, by the falling of some sparks, (as is supposed) upon a pile of wooden buildings; but his royal highness who watched there that whole night in person, by the great labours and diligence used, and especially by applying powder to blow up the houses about it, before day most happily mastered it.

“ Divers strangers, Dutch and French, were, during the fire, apprehended, upon suspicion that they contributed mischievously to it, who were all imprisoned, and informations prepared to make a severe inquisition thereupon by lord chief justice Keeling, assisted by some of the lords of the privy-council, and some principal members of the city; notwithstanding which suspicions, the manner of the burning all along in a train, and so blown forwards in all its way by strong winds, makes us conclude the whole was the effect of an unhappy chance, or, to speak better, the heavy hand of God upon us for our sins, shewing us the terror of his judgments in thus raising the fire: and immediately after his miraculous and never enough to be acknowledged mercy in putting a stop to it, when we were in the last despair, and that all attempts for the quenching it, however industriously pursued, seemed insufficient.

“ His majesty then sat hourly in council, and ever since hath continued making rounds about the city in all parts of it where the danger and mischief was the greatest, till this morning that he hath sent his grace the Duke of Albemarle,

benmarle, whom he hath called for to assist him on this great occasion, to put his happy and successful hand to the finishing this memorable deliverance."

During the progress of this dreadful conflagration, orders were given for pulling down various houses in the Tower of London, in order to preserve the grand magazine of gunpowder in that fortress; to the preservation of which, the violent easterly wind contributed more than the precaution. Many thousands of citizens, who by this calamity were deprived of their habitations, retired to the fields, destitute of all necessaries, and exposed to the inclemency of the weather, till a sufficient number of huts could be erected for their relief. In order to mitigate the distresses of the people, his majesty ordered a great quantity of naval bread to be distributed among them; and issued a proclamation, commanding the magistrates of the city to encourage the bringing of all kinds of provisions.

By the certificate of Jonas Moore and Ralph Gatrix, the surveyors appointed to examine the ruins, it appeared that this dreadful fire over-ran 373 acres of ground within the walls, and burnt 13,200 houses, 89 parish churches, besides chapels; and that only eleven parishes within the walls were left standing. To this account may also be added the magnificent buildings of St. Paul's cathedral, Guildhall, the Royal Exchange, Custom-house, and Blackwell-hall; many hospitals and valuable libraries, fifty-two halls of the city companies, and a great number of other stately edifices; together with three of the city gates, and the prisons of Newgate, the Fleet, the Poultry, and Wood-street Compters; the loss of which, by the best calculation, amounted to upwards of ten millions sterling. And notwithstanding all this destruction, yet it is very remarkable only six persons lost their lives.

Various were the conjectures on the cause and authors of
this

this fire, few being inclined to think it casual. Many would have it to be brought about by the malice of the republicans, while others ascribed it to the papists. But each of these suspicions seem to have had their rise in the violent animosities that possessed the minds of the different parties at that period. If circumstances, however, can furnish us with reasonable conjectures, the following will be sufficient to shew, that that the fire was casual, and that the dreadful event was occasioned by accident and not design.

The fire broke out at the house of one Farryner, a baker in Pudding-lane: the house was intirely built of wood, and pitched on the outside, as were also all the rest in that lane. The lane was exceeding narrow, and the projecting stories on each side almost met at the top. Add to this, that the house, in which the fire began being full of faggots and brush-wood, the fire raged with great fury, and, spreading four ways at once, fell upon the Star Inn, then full of hay and straw; from whence it communicated itself to Fish-street-hill, and Thames-street, in the latter of which it caught several magazines of different sorts of combustibles. The fire soon crossed Cornhill by the train of wood that lay in the streets from houses pulled down to prevent its spreading, and then proceeded with equal fury on both sides.

The conflagration was extended by various concurrent circumstances. The buildings, as already hinted, were of a combustible nature. The fire broke out on a Saturday night, when many of the principal citizens were retired to their country houses and lodgings, and only their servants left at home; consequently many hands were wanting that might otherwise have been useful in extinguishing the flames. The heat of the summer had so dried the timber, that when it once caught fire, it was the less easy to be repelled: and a strong easterly wind blew the whole time. The water-works

works at London-bridge were entirely burnt, so that no relief could be had from thence, and the New River unexpectedly failed. Besides this, there was a general negligence at first in the most effectual means for quenching the fire, from a confidence the people entertained of its stopping at different openings; which at length turned to general confusion, and people endeavoured rather to save their goods by flight, than to preserve their own and their neighbours houses. To these causes, and to these only, can the surprising progress of the fire be naturally attributed.

Several suspected persons, however, were taken up on this account; notwithstanding which it was never possible to discover, or prove that the baker's house, where this dreadful calamity broke out, was fired on purpose. Nevertheless, a French Hugonot, a native of Roan, and a lunatic, having owned himself guilty of this horrible action, was condemned and executed; but it appeared afterwards, by the testimony of the master of the ship who brought him out of France, that though he was landed at the time of the fire, yet he did not arrive in London till two days after it began.

It was pretended also that a Dutch boy, ten years old, had confessed that his father and himself had thrown fire-balls into the baker's house, through a window that stood open. But besides the objection that may be made to this testimony from the boy's age, there must have been some circumstance in this narrative not agreeable to the fact, since it was never thought proper to make further enquiry.

The most general conjecture, however, at that time was, that it was fired by the papists; and the authority we have for it is, from an inscription round the Monument, which was erected by act of parliament to perpetuate the memory of

of this dreadful calamity. Of this most singular structure, and elegant ornament of the city, we shall here give a full description.

The monument, which is a noble fluted column, is situated in a small square open to the street on the east side of Fish-street-hill. It was designed by Sir Christopher Wren, by whom it was begun to be erected in the year 1671, and thoroughly completed by that great architect in the year 1677. It is esteemed the noblest modern column in the world; and may in some respects vie with the most celebrated of antiquity, which are consecrated to the names of Trajan and Antoninus.

This stately column, which is twenty-four feet higher than Trajan's pillar at Rome, is built of Portland stone, of the Doric order, and fluted. Its altitude from the ground is 202 feet, and the diameter of the shaft or body of the column is fifteen feet. It stands on a pedestal forty feet high, the ground, plinth, or bottom of which is twenty eight feet square. Within is a large stair-case of black marble, containing 345 steps, each six inches thick, and ten inches and a half broad. Over the capital is an iron balcony, which encompasses a cone thirty-two feet high, supporting a blazing urn of brass, gilt. On the cap of the pedestal, at the angles, are four dragons (the supporters of the city arms) and between them trophies, with symbols of regality, arts, sciences, commerce, &c.

The best side of the pedestal is adorned with curious emblems, by the masterly hand of Mr. Cibber, father to the late poet laureat; in which the eleven principal figures are done in *alto*, and the rest in *basso relievo*. The principal figure, to which the eye is particularly directed, is a female, representing the city of London, sitting in a languishing posture on a heap of ruins: her head appears reclining, her hair is dishevelled, and her hand lies carelessly on her sword.

sword. Behind is Time gradually raising her up; and at her side a woman representing Providence, gently touching her with one hand, whilst, with a winged sceptre in the other, she directs her to regard two goddesses in the clouds; one with a cornucopiæ, signifying Plenty, and the other with a palm branch, denoting the emblem of peace. At her feet is a bee-hive, shewing, that by industry and application the greatest difficulties are to be surmounted. Behind Time are divers citizens exulting at his endeavours to restore her; and beneath, in the midst of the ruins, is a dragon, who, as supporter of the city arms, endeavours to preserve them with his paw. Opposite the city, on an elevated pavement, stands king Charles II. in a Roman habit, with a wreath of laurel on his head and a truncheon in his hand; who, approaching the city, commands three of his attendants to descend to her relief; the first represents the Sciences, with wings on her head, and a circle of naked boys dancing upon it, holding Nature in her hand, with her numerous breasts ready to give assistance to all. The second is Architecture, with a plan in one hand and a square and pair of compasses in the other. The third is Liberty, waving a hat in the air, and shewing her joy at the pleasing prospect of the city's speedy recovery. Behind the king stands his brother, the duke of York, with a garland in one hand to crown the rising city, and a sword in the other for her defence. Behind him are Justice and Fortitude, the former with a coronet, and the latter with a reined lion. In the pavement, under the sovereign's feet, appears Envy peeping from her cell, and gnawing a heart; and in the upper part of the back-ground the re-construction of the city is represented by scaffolds, erected by the sides of the unfinished houses, with builders and labourers at work upon them.

On the east side of the pedestal is the following inscription,

tion, signifying the times in which this pillar was begun, continued, and brought to perfection :

Incepta

Richardo Ford, Esq.

prætoræ Lond.,

A. D. M D C L X X I.

perducta altius

Geo. Waterman, Esq. P. V.

Roberto Hanson, Esq. P. V.

Gulielmo Hooker, P. V.

Roberto Viner, Esq. P. V.

Josepho Sheldon, Esq. P. V.

perfecta

Thoma Davis, Esq. P. V.

urb.

Anno Dom.

M D C L X X V I I.

The north and south sides of the pedestal have each a Latin inscription; one describing the desolation of the city, and the other its restoration. That on the north side we have carefully translated, and is as follows:

“ In the year of Christ 1666, the second day of September, eastward from hence, at the distance of two hundred feet, (the height of this column) a fire broke out about midnight, which, being driven on by a strong wind, not only wasted the adjacent parts, but also very remote places, with incredible noise and fury. It consumed eighty-nine churches, the city gates, Guild-hall, many hospitals, schools, and libraries; a vast number of stately edifices, above thirteen thousand two hundred dwelling-houses, and four hundred streets; of the twenty-six wards it destroyed fifteen, and left eight others shattered and half burnt.

“ burnt. The ruins of the city were four hundred and
 “ thirty-six acres, from this pillar, by the Thames side,
 “ to the Temple church; and from the north-east side, along
 “ the city-wall, to Holborn-bridge. To the estates and
 “ fortunes of the citizens it was mercilefs, but to their
 “ lives very favourable; that it might in all things refem-
 “ ble the laft conflagration of the world. The destruction
 “ was fudden; for in a fmall fpace of time the fame city
 “ was feen moft flourishing, and reduced to nothing.
 “ Three days after, when this fatal fire had baffled all hu-
 “ man councils and endeavours in the opinion of all, it
 “ ftopped, as it were, by the will of heaven, and was ex-
 “ tinguifhed on every fide.”

The infcription on the fouth fide we have tranflated thus :

“ Charles the Second, fon of Charles the Martyr, king
 “ of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the
 “ Faith, a moft gracious prince, commiferating the de-
 “ plorable ftate of things, whilft the ruins were yet fmok-
 “ ing, provided for the comfort of the citizens, and the
 “ ornament of his city; remitted their taxes, and referred
 “ the petitions of the magiftrates and inhabitants to the
 “ parliament, who immediately paffed an act, that publick
 “ works fhould be reftored to greater beauty with publick
 “ money, to be raifed by an impofition on coal; that
 “ churches, and the cathedral of St. Paul’s, fhould be re-
 “ built from their foundations, with all magnificence;
 “ that bridges, gates, and prifons fhould be new made,
 “ the fewers cleaned, the ftreets made ftrait and regular,
 “ fuch as were fteep levelled, and thofe too narrow to be
 “ made wider. Markets and fhambles to be alfo enlarged,
 “ and fituated in different parts of the city. That every
 “ houfe fhould be built with party walls, and all in front

" raised of equal height ; that those walls should be of
 " square stone or brick ; and that no man should be longer
 " than seven years building his house. Anniversary prayers
 " were also enjoined ; and to perpetuate the memory there-
 " of to posterity, they caused this column to be erected.
 " The work was carried on with diligence, and London
 " is restored ; but whether with greater speed or beauty,
 " may be made a question. In three years time the world
 " saw that finished, which was supposed to be the business
 " of an age."

Under the before-mentioned inscriptions, in one continued line round the base of the pedestal, are the following words :

" This pillar was set up in perpetual remembrance of
 " the most dreadful burning of this protestant city, begun
 " and carried on by the treachery and malice of the popish
 " faction, in the beginning of September, in the year of
 " our Lord 1666, in order to execute their horrid plot,
 " to extirpate the protestant religion, and the old English
 " liberty, and to introduce popery and slavery."

This inscription, on the duke of York's accession to the throne, was immediately erased ; but was restored again soon after the revolution.

Though this dreadful fire occasioned great temporary distress, yet in the end it proved of the utmost utility, by restoring the city with more uniformity, convenience, and wholesomeness than might have been expected. Before this accident, the streets were narrow, crooked, and inconvenient : the buildings were chiefly of wood, dark, close, and ill-contrived ; and by the several stories, projecting beyond each other, as they rose over the narrow streets, the circulation of the air was almost entirely obstructed. To these

These inconveniencies may, in some measure, be attributed to the destruction which had been repeatedly made in the city by the visitation of the plague; for as the air was confined, so the noisome vapours and pestilential atoms were harboured and nourished. By the rebuilding of the city, and the enlargement of the streets, the free circulation of air was admitted, the offensive vapours expelled, and the city freed from all pestilential disorders from that time to the present.

A few days after the fire, when the consternation of the people was somewhat abated, his majesty issued a proclamation for prohibiting the rebuilding of houses till proper regulations were made for re-edifying the city with such propriety, uniformity and security, as might effectually prevent the like destruction in future. In the mean time, and while the city lay in ruins, several temporary conveniencies were formed for the benefit of the public in general. Tabernacles were erected in various places for the exercise of divine worship. Gresham College was converted into an Exchange for the merchants; in the apartments of which the public business of the city was transacted, instead of Guildhall: and the Royal Society being excluded from Gresham College, were accommodated with apartments in Arundel House. The Excise Office was kept in Southampton Fields, near Bedford House; the General Post Office was removed to Bridges-street, Covent-garden; the affairs of the Custom-house were transacted in Mark-lane; the king's wardrobe was removed from Puddle-wharf to York-buildings; and the offices belonging to Doctor's Commons were held in Exeter-House in the Strand.

The citizens of London laboured but a short time under the inconveniencies arising from this calamity; for, by the prudent vigilance of the different parties concerned, it was, to the astonishment of all Europe, rebuilt in the short space

of four years, and that in so different a manner from its original state, that those who beheld it before and after the fire, were no less astonished at the wealth of the citizens who could sustain so considerable a loss, than at the expedition and expence that was laid out in restoring it. Before we quit this subject, we shall anticipate a little for the sake of observing, that a favourable opportunity offered, whereby the city of London might have been rebuilt in a manner so superior to that which took place, as to have exceeded in beauty all the cities in the universe; which would certainly have been the case, had either of the plans of Sir Christopher Wren, or Sir John Evelyn met with that countenance the ingenuity of the projectors merited. But the obstinacy of the greatest part of the citizens in refusing to recede their right of building their own houses on the old foundations, was an insurmountable obstacle in the execution of this noble scheme.



The following is a Copy of an exceedingly rare printed Tract, from Vol. 13 of the Archaeologia, entitled "The ENDE of LADYE JANE upon the SCAFFOLDE." It is without date, but contains internal evidence of having been printed immediately after that Event, in the first year of the reign of Queen Mary, 1554.

"THE ENDE of the Lady Jane Dudley, Doughter to the Duke of Suffolke upon the Scaffolde, at the houre of her death, being the 12 day of February.

Fyrst, whan she was mounted on the scaffolde, she sayd to the people standinge thereabout, Good people, I com hether to die, and by a lawe I am condemned to the same. The facte, indede, against the queenes highnes was unlawful, and the consenting thereunto by me, but touching the procurement and desyre therof by me, or on my halfe, I doo
 walk

wash my handes thereof in innocencie, before God and the face of you good christian people this day, and therewith she wrong her handes in which she had her booke. Then she sayd, I pray you all good christian people to bere me wytness that I dye a true christian woman, and that I looke to be saved by none other mene but only by the mercy of God, in the merites of the bloud of his onely sonne Iesus Christe, and I confesse when I dyd know the word of God, I neglected the same and loved myselfe and the world, and therefore this plague or punishment is happely and worthely happened unto me for my sinnes. And yet I thanke God of his goodnes that he hath thus geven me a tyme and respet to repent. And now good people while I am alyve I pray you to assyst me with your prayers. And then she knelyng downe, she turned to Fecknam, saying, Shall I say this Psalm? and he said yea. Then she said the Psalm of Misereri Mei Deus in English in most devout manner to thende. Then she stode up and gave her mayde Mistres Tylney her gloves and handkercher, and her booke to Maistre Thomas Brydges, the lyvetenantes brother. Forthwith she untied her gowne. The hangman went to her to have helped her of therwith, then she desyred him to let her alone, turning towards her two jentlewomen, who helped her of therwith, and also her Frose paste and neckecher, geving to her a fayre handkercher to knytte about her eyes. Then the hangman kneled downe, and asked her forgevnes, whome she forgave most willingly. Then he willed her to stand upon the strawe, which doing she sawe the blocke. Then she sayd I pray the dispatche me quickly. Than she kneeled downe saying, Wil you take it of before I lay me downe? And the hangman answered her, No, madame. She tyed the kercher about her eyes. Than feeling for the blocke, saide, What shal I do, where is it? One of the standers by guyding her therunto, she layde her

her heade downe upon the blocke, and stretched forth her body, and sayd, Lorde, into thy handes I commende my spirite.

And so she ended."

Biographical Sketch of SAMUEL BEST, commonly called POOR HELP, a most Singular Character.

THIS extraordinary man was, according to his own account, brought up at college with Lord Thurlow, whom he familiarly calls Ned Thurlow; but this we very much doubt, being more inclined to adopt the popular opinion that he was for several years a porter and confidential servant to a broker in Moorfields, but through some misconduct was dismissed from this employment, which, it is supposed was the occasion of that derangement of mind under which many think he has ever since laboured.

Having been put into bedlam, where he was let blood till he fainted, he states that he was dragged through a reservoir of water with a rope round his body, and otherwise treated very ill: moreover, that he was in a trance for several days, and near being buried; but fortunately some person put a glass over his mouth, and perceived that he was still breathing. On his recovery he related the wonderful things he saw, among which was, that the angel Gabriel gave him such a perfect knowledge of the Bible from the beginning to the end, that he could tell any verse or chapter required, and correct any mistake relative to the same.

About twenty years ago he was in Shoreditch workhouse, where he made several curious devices in straw; particularly the creation, Adam and Eve in Paradise, the particular actions of the patriarchs, the miracles wrought by our Saviour, the Evangelists, and Apostles, the crucifixion, &c.

He

WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



SAMUEL BEST,

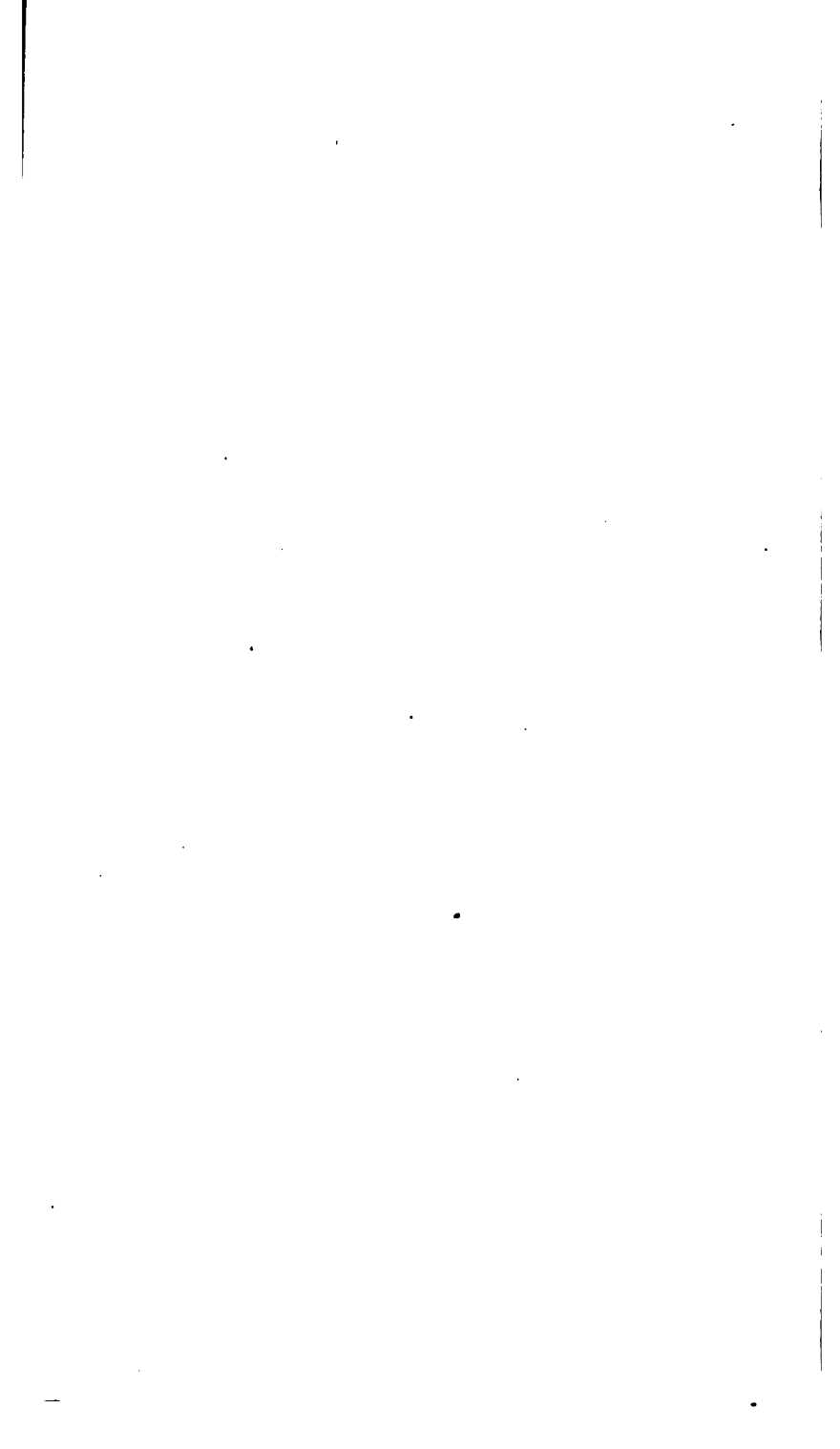
alias

POOR-HELP.

*Famous for interpreting certain parts of Scripture—His
Prophecies, &c. &c.*

Pub. Man-bleq by Alex. Hogg, W. Paton - north Row





He was visited here by a great number of persons, whom curiosity or credulity had brought.

But the overseers and churchwardens not allowing him to answer any interrogatories, he left the place, or, as it is said, Lord S— took him away, and allowed him some small pension. He now became a resident at a coal-shed in Bunhill Row, about the year 1788 or 1789. Here he received company in a very singular manner, praying and conversing with them, and giving them straw rings, &c. as tokens of remembrance, and taking hold of the right hand, and looking a short time at it, generally desired them to write down passages of scripture. The following are the texts, &c. he has given upon this occasion:

Micah, chap. 7, first 11 words.

Two letters of verse 5.

Verses 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Deuteronomy, chap. 33, verse 7, last 17 words.

Verses 11, 25, 26, and 27.

Psalms 27, (all).

Ditto 115, verse 14 and 15.

Isaiah 54, verse 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, and 17.

Jeremiah, chap. 1, verse 8, 9, 17, 19.

Psalms 40, verse 11.

St. Matthew, chap. 5, verse 10, 11, 12, 16, 17.

Romans, chap. 8, verse 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.

Psalms 94, verse 17, 19, 22.

Numbers, chap. 6, verse 24, 25, 26.

Titus, chap. 1, verse 15.

He also desired the person on returning home to write out all these verses, assuring them that many extraordinary circumstances would be the consequence of so doing. He kept a peacock's feather, which he called his *bundle of down*, and

and which he said was to correct the young ladies. Men he generally called Hercules's. He was always merry, but his conversation very trifling; however, he took particular care never to give offence. His favourite dram, and which he recommended to the ladies, was a glass of gin, which he termed *nig*; in this he desired his visitors to put as much powder of rhubarb as would lie on a sixpence; assuring them, that this stirred up and taken every morning, would preserve their health.

• He was generally dressed, when at home to receive company, in a loose morning gown, lined with squirrel's skins, a fur-cap, &c. and used to sit on his couch or bed, making rings of straw, or working pictures in cruels, of different colours on linen, with straw frames. He never asked any of his visitors for money, but having two or three daughters, a little girl stood below stairs, to receive whatever presents they were inclined to make.

From this place he went to Bloomsbury market, where he also solved questions. Afterwards he resided in St. George's Fields, near Webber's Row, and foretold future events. He generally went out of a Saturday, to visit his friends, let them be ever so distant, walking with all the activity of youth, though at an advanced age, (being now about 91) and followed by a concourse of people, among whom have been noticed several respectable characters, divines of the established church, as well as dissenting ministers, methodists, quakers, &c. He has frequently visited Mr. Hawes, printer, in Spitalfields, who has given him many of his little tracts to circulate. He has been often seen by their Majesties, the royal family, and many of the nobility.

A gentleman at the west end of the town gave him a very curious cinnamon cane, the head of which was of beautiful yellow silver, and set with valuable stones; but this having been
screwed

screwed off, and stolen by some evil disposed person, he frequently used the stick, though without its head. He still continued at his last lodging to receive company, to whom he used to make a present of his "*Warning to all,*" being half a sheet of rhapsodical prophecies, interlarded with texts from scripture, which he had printed for that purpose. The proclamation society for suppressing vice, &c. deemed him a proper object of persecution; a woman was therefore employed, who waited on him as a visitor, but became an informer; whereupon he was apprehended and sent to the prison in Horsemonger-lane, Southwark; but was a little time since removed, and by order of the magistrates sent to Shoreditch workhouse, where he is at present. Mr. Hedger, late of the Dog and Duck, on whom he generally calls on Sunday mornings, has testified much compassion for him, having frequently left money in the hands of Mr. Wharton, the workhouse-keeper, a very humane man to those entrusted to his care, to render his situation more comfortable.

Some years ago a sixpenny pamphlet appeared against him, by which the author endeavoured to prove *Poor Help* an impostor, but the writer's arguments were found to be without weight, and charity inclines us to think that *de-
rangement of mind*, and not *cunning of heart*, is Samuel Best's misfortune.



For GRANGER'S WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

Shipwreck of the DUKE of ORMOND.

MANY years ago, in Charles or James's reign, the Duke of Ormond was appointed lord-lieutenant of Ireland. His retinue went before him from Holyhead, and arrived safe in Dublin to make every thing ready for their master against

his arrival. The duke and his secretary a few days after got into a packet at the same place, and had not long been at sea before the wind changed to an adverse point, and blew a hurricane; the packet and crew went to the bottom in a very short space of time, and none escaped except the duke and his secretary, who were thrown by the in-going tide on the Welch shore, after being several hours immersed in water, in the month of February, and starved with cold and hunger, and at the distance of three or four miles at that time from any village, and at a still greater distance from any post town. The duke and secretary, glad it was no worse, walked on in their wet cloaths till they came, about nine in the evening, at a little cottage; the good people therein were nearly going to bed, the travellers made a noise at the door, were soon heard, and the door with caution was opened; the duke told his case, concealing who he was, saying he was a gentleman, and going to Ireland on particular business. The inhabitant of the cottage was a Mr. Joseph, a Welch curate of the established religion, a simple, good-hearted, inoffensive character, had been well educated, was a good scholar, of gentlemanlike manners, and possessing some of the milk of human kindness, and whose every evening prayer was,

That mercy I to others shew,
That mercy shew to me.——POPE.

Mr. Joseph welcomed the two gentlemen, laid on an extra faggot or two, which soon cheered the humble, yet hospitable dwelling. He told the guests he was but a poor man, but such as he could relieve their wants in, he was happy in so doing. He gave them dry cloaths, some hollands, good ale, cheese, and dried fish. They were soon warm, cheery, happy, and contented; but now and then a sigh would escape both when they reflected on the fate of the

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the packet and its crew. The duke and secretary saved no more than they stood upright in at the parson's house. However, in a few days a trunk arrived, in consequence of the letter sent by the duke by a Welch peasant to the nearest post town. Cloaths arrived, the guests offered Mr. Joseph a present for the trouble, and this was the only demur. The parson insisted on it the gentlemen wanted to offend him because he was a poor man in offering him a recompence, observing, what he did for the Lord, he was always rewarded by Providence ten-fold in some way or another, and concluded, it did not follow that because he was poor, he must of course be mean. Finding the parson's obstinacy continued, they shook him by the hand; thanked him very civilly, and on parting told him, if ever he should come to Ireland, he, the duke, should be glad to see him, and that his name was Butler, which was the name of the then Ormond family, and then they both departed.

About twelve months after this the parson for several nights dreamt that if he went to Dublin he should hear of something advantageous there. He told his wife this continued dream; as they lived happily, and had so done for more than twenty years, she persuaded him to think no more of it, he consented; still the same dream attended the parson. At length he told his wife he would sell the cow and go to Ireland; he did not put much faith in dreams, but this was so remarkable he could not resist going.

He got a neighbouring parson to do his duty, he got the cow sold, and by means of the money arising from the sale, sat off for Dublin, which did not occupy much time, as he lived near the sea. The parson arrived safe at Dublin, went to his inn, and next morning enquired of his host for Mr. Butler; the host told him there might be a hundred

persons or more of that name in Dublin, and unless he could tell the street Mr. Butler lived in, it would be impossible to find him out, unless by great chance he might meet him in the streets of Dublin. The parson was rather cast down at this news, as he never was at Dublin or Ireland before, and knew no one else there. However, the host persuaded him to see the city, and the lord-lieutenant's equipage, &c.

The next day he saw the same persons in the gilt coach that he relieved when shipwrecked; he was very minute in his enquiries, and was told which was the lord-lieutenant, and which was his grace's secretary. He kept all these things snug to himself, and returned to his inn in good spirits, dined, and indulged himself with an extra pint of ale after dinner. The next day he saw the church, where the lord-lieutenant went at particular times in state; here he found a minister that went to Oxford with him when he was young, who was very glad to see him, and invited him to stay a few days, which the Welch parson accepted. This, his old school-fellow, happened to be one of the chaplains in ordinary to the lord-lieutenant, and told the Welch curate that his grace would attend in grand state at that church on the next Sunday. Mr. Joseph persuaded the chaplain to lend him the pulpit for that Sunday, that he might boast when he returned to Wales, that he had had the honour to preach before so great, high, and exalted a character, as his grace the Duke of Ormond, lord-lieutenant of Ireland, privy councillor, &c. &c. He did not forget to tell the chaplain of the shipwreck. This being agreed upon, the next Sunday (a suitable sermon having been wrote, corrected, and agreed on between the parsons) Mr. Joseph, after the prayers were over, mounted the pulpit, and made a suitable prayer before the sermon. He took the following text;

Genesis,

Genesis, 40th chapter, last verse:

“ Yet did not the Chief Butler remember Joseph, but forgot him.”

The sermon lasted thirty minutes; the preacher acquitted himself with the greatest propriety as well as applause; near the end he neatly touched on the want of fellow-feeling in many to the wants of the unfortunate; how dreadful above most ordinary events shipwreck was, to lose all but life, and to escape, thankful to Providence for having been so bounteous as to extend it a little longer for such wise ends as Providence had decreed; probably to help the aged, unfortunate, and those in real want, who might possibly decline, being the foremost among the clamorous petitioners, from motives of delicacy not wishing to be considered as intruding, thinking the claims he might found certain pretensions upon to be erroneous, and probably over-rated those he might have rendered, and that whatever such poor person might think, others who knew more, might think differently from him, and that he would wish to pay all due deference to his superiors and their opinions, &c.

The vice-roy paid the greatest attention, as also did his secretary. They had both forgot the person of the Welch curate, as he did not appear in the pulpit the same man as in his cottage in Wales; he had procured a handsome wig, good cloaths, &c.

The sermon being over, the vice-roy sent for the chaplain who read prayers, and asked him who the gentleman was that preached; the chaplain told his grace he came from England, that they were at college together; he knew him to be a scholar, and of gentlemanly behaviour. The duke sent for the curate, and when he was near him in a room (the duke being very near-sighted) he immediately recollected him, and told him he was very glad to see him there,

there, and made him quit the chaplain's house, and in less than a week presented him a living of 1000l. a year. When he gave him the deed of presentation his grace jokingly said :

“ Pharoah's chief butler has not forgot Joseph, but remembered him.”

The Welch parson was made also a chaplain in ordinary to his grace, and preached in turn at the same church, and in time solicited a living of 600l. a year for his friend the chaplain. He sent for his wife from Wales, and ended his days in Ireland. Thus :

“ One good turn deserves another.”

G. W. Senior.

Sir,

I take the liberty of transmitting to you for insertion in your Wonderful Museum, an account of my great grandmother, which is a fact, and may be proved on application to many of the respectable farmers, &c. at Winwick, viz. Messrs. Barnwell, Horne, Peake, or to her daughter, Mrs. Smith, at Winwick.

Your constant reader,

Huntingdon.

WM. SMITH.

ON Tuesday the 14th day of December, 1802, died at Winwick, in the county of Huntingdon, Mrs. Stratton, at the advanced age of 107 years and a quarter. She enjoyed good health, and possessed every faculty at the age of 100 years: but since that period she became weak, and her faculties impaired, which of course must be expected. She had an immense number of children, grand-children, great-grand-children, and two great-great-grand-children.

The following Instances of SINGULAR BIRTHS, are from undoubted Authorities.

THE following is a copy from the parish register of Greenwich:—"Francis North, son of Samuel North, (being born without arms, his hands growing out of his shoulders) baptized July 4th, 1619."

Several remarkable instances of such births have occurred, and the wonderful acquirements of persons thus maimed by nature, have often been the subject of public astonishment, and proved a source of gain to themselves or their relations.

Geraldus Cambrensis speaks of a young woman born without arms, whom he saw at Chester, in the reign of Henry II. He mentions her working very dexterously with her needle.

Stow gives an account of a Dutchman born without arms, who, in 1581 exhibited surprising feats of activity in London, such as flourishing a rapier, shooting an arrow near a mark, &c. (Annals, 4to. p. 1168).

Bulwer, in his Artificial Changling, p. 302, speaks of John Simons, a native of Berkshire, born without arms or hands, who could write with his mouth, thread a needle, tie a knot, shuffle, cut, and deal a pack of cards, &c. He was shewn to the public in 1653.

I have a handbill of John Sear, a Spaniard, born without arms, shewn to the public at large in London, in King William's reign, who professed that he could comb and shave himself, fill a glass, thread a needle, embroider, write six sorts of hands, and play on several instruments of music.

Matthew Buchinger, a German, born without arms or legs, who was in England the beginning of last century, wrote a good hand, many specimens of which are now extant, and performed several wonderful feats. He was a dextrous hand at skittles. There is a portrait of him now
in

in Paris, which he etched himself, and is a very natural likeness. He died in 1772, aged 48 years.

Thomas Pinnington, a native of Liverpool, born without arms or legs, performed much the same feats as Sear, in 1744, and several years ensuing; since which a Miss Hawtin, from Coventry, born without arms, has exhibited herself at Bartholomew fair, and other places, and is very expert in cutting watch-papers, &c.

Thomas Inglefield, born without arms or legs, in 1769, at Hook, in Hampshire, died a few years ago in London. He was not publickly shewn, but got his bread by writing and drawing. There are two portraits of him, one of which was etched by himself.

There is now living William Kingston, a farmer at Ditchat, in Somersetshire, born without arms, of whom frequent mention has been made in the public papers; he surpasses (according to accounts which are very well attested) all that have been yet spoken of; he transacts some of the business of his farm, can milk his cows, make hay, catch his horse, and put his bridle and saddle on, dress and undress himself, comb and shave, write out his bills, &c. It is also said, that he is a good boxer, and was victorious in a pitched battle which he fought on the 15th of September, 1789, with a blacksmith, a noted bruiser of that place; and after half an hour's contest, Kingston played so successfully upon his antagonist with his head and heels, that he was taken off the field with two broken ribs and a dislocation of the hip bone. He was married a few years ago.

Bedford-square.

MANTUA.

Singular

Singular Sagacity of a SAVAGE DOG.

IN the county of Ulster, neighbourhood of Wawasing, lived one Le Ferre; he was the grandson of a Frenchman, who, at the repeal of the edict of Nantes, was, with many others, obliged to fly his country. He possessed the last plantation of the valley near the blue mountains, (which cross a part of the State of New York,) an enormous chain, which always will be, as it is at present, an asylum for deer. He had nothing to fear in time of war, from the incursions of the inhabitants of those savage countries—for he knew them all, and was very much beloved by them. A pretty fall of water had given him the idea of building a grist-mill there, which was the best of the valley—the same current turned also a saw-mill, to which he carried, upon the winter's snow, the trees that he drew from the neighbouring mountains. This useful stream was then diverted in a manner common enough in this country, to water the fields in its vicinity—and it caused the hay to grow there more abundantly, and the best I ever saw. Half a mile from his door ran the river Esopus, upon the borders of which, nature has fixed the richest soil in America, so well known under the name of *Terre basse* [low land:] It is in that valley that fertility itself has taken its abode—it is there, where every barn becomes a temple of Ceres.

Le Ferre had eleven children, (a circumstance not extraordinary in this country.) The oldest boys, like their father, were skilful hunters. Who could live so near forests without instinctively knowing how to go thither, and take the game which they contain? It is thus that those who live upon the banks of the sea become sailors. Every thing with man is local, his virtues and his vices, his tastes, even his prejudices—there is nothing but sound morality and virtue, which is in every country.

He lived with the produce of his land and his mill, happy and tranquil. One of his sons was minister of Wawarsing, which was inhabited by none but Dutchmen, descended from the first settlers of New Amstel, at present New York.

Being one day at the house of this farmer, the youngest of his children disappeared about ten o'clock in the morning—he was four years old:—The family, alarmed, sought for him in the river, and in the fields, but in vain!—The frightened parents sent for the neighbours; we went into the woods, and searched them with the most scrupulous attention. A thousand times we called him, but received no other answer than those of savage echoes. We divided into many parties; night came on, without our being able to flatter ourselves with any hope.—The parents, in despair, refused to return to the house; their terror was without cessation increased by the knowledge they had of the activity and rage of the wild cats, against which men cannot always defend themselves. They painted to themselves an hungry wolf devouring the child of their bosoms, and spilling upon the ground the blood of their loved infant. What a dark and melancholy night! As soon as the day appeared, each of us began to seek again, but as unsuccessfully as the preceding days. They were all in the greatest distress, and knew not what to do.—Happily a savage, loaded with furs, coming from the village of Anaguaga, (upon the eastern branch of the river Susquehanna) went to the house of this planter, with the design of reposing himself there. He was surprised to find nobody at home but an old black woman, who had been detained by her infirmities. Where is my brother? demanded the savage of her. Alas! said she, he has lost his little Derick, and all the neighbourhood is employed in seeking for him in the woods. It was then three o'clock in the afternoon.—

“ Sound

“ Sound the trumpet, endeavour to recal your master; I will find his little child.” As soon as the father was returned, the savage asked of him the shoes and stockings that little Derick had last worn: he commanded his dog to smell them; taking then the house for a centre, he described a semi-circle of a quarter of a mile, ordering his dog to smell the ground every where as he conducted him. They had not gone far before this sagacious animal began to bay. That happy sound darted immediately into the hearts of the distressed parents some feeble rays of hope. The dog followed the track, and still bayed; they ran after him with all their might, but soon lost sight of him in the thickness of the woods. Half an hour afterwards, they saw him returning; the countenance of the dog was visibly changed; the air of joy was painted in it; I was sure that he had found the child—but, was he dead or alive? What a cruel alternative was this for those poor parents, as also for the rest of the company!—The savage followed his dog, who did not fail to conduct him to the foot of a great tree, where the child was lying in a state of weakness, approaching death. He took him tenderly into his arms, and made haste to carry him towards the company, who had not been able to proceed with the same quickness. Happily the father and mother were in some manner prepared to receive their child; for more than a quarter of an hour they had begun to form some hopes; a weak light had penetrated into their hearts when they heard the first accents of the savage dog. They ran to meet their brother, from whom they received their dear Derick with an ecstacy and agitation not to be described.

On the PHENOMENA of the WATER-SPOUT.

THE best account of the water-spout which we have met with is in the *Phil. Trans.* Abridged, vol. viii. as observed by Mr. Joseph Harris, May 21, 1732, about sun-set, lat. 32 deg. 30 min. N. long. 9 deg. E. from Cape Florida.—“When first we saw the spout (says he), it was whole and entire, and much of the shape and proportion of a speaking trumpet; the small end being downwards, and reaching to the sea, and the big end terminated in a black thick cloud. The spout itself was very black, and the more so the higher up. It seemed to be exactly perpendicular to the horizon, and its sides perfectly smooth, without the least ruggedness. Where it fell the spray of the sea rose to a considerable height, which made somewhat the appearance of a great smoke. From the first time we saw it, it continued whole about a minute, and till it was quite dissipated about three minutes. It began to waste from below, and so gradually up, while the upper part remained entire, without any visible alteration, till at last it ended in the black cloud above: upon which there seemed to fall a very heavy rain in that neighbourhood.—There was but little wind, and the sky elsewhere was pretty serene.”

Water-spouts have by some been supposed to be merely electrical in their origin; particularly by Signior Beccaria, who supported his opinion by some experiments. But if we attend to the successive phenomena necessary to constitute a complete water-spout throughout their various stages, we shall be convinced, that recourse must be had to some other principle, in order to obtain a complete solution.

Dr. Franklin, in his *Physical and Meteorological Observations*, supposes a water-spout and a whirlwind to proceed from the same cause; their only difference being, that the latter passes over the land, and the former over the water;

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This opinion is corroborated by M. de la Pryme, in the Philosophical Transactions, where he describes two spouts observed at different times in Yorkshire, whose appearances in the air were exactly like those of the spouts at sea, and their effects the same as those of real whirlwinds.

A fluid moving from all parts horizontally towards a centre, must at that centre either mount or descend. If a hole be opened in the middle of the bottom of a tub filled with water, the water will flow from all sides to the centre, and there descend in a whirl: but air flowing on or near the surface of land or water, from all sides towards a centre, must at that centre ascend; because the land or water will hinder its descent.

The doctor, in proceeding to explain his conceptions, begs to be allowed two or three positions, as a foundation for his hypothesis. 1. That the lower region of air is often more heated, and so more rarefied than the upper, and by consequence specifically lighter. The coldness of the upper region is manifested by the hail, which sometimes falls from it in warm weather. 2. That heated air may be very moist, and yet the moisture so equally diffused and rarefied as not to be visible till colder air mixes with it; at which time it condenses and becomes visible. Thus our breath, although invisible in summer, becomes visible in winter.

These circumstances being granted, he presupposes a tract of land or sea, of about sixty miles in extent, unsheltered by clouds and unrefreshed by the wind, during a summer's day, or perhaps for several days without intermission, till it becomes violently heated, together with the lower region of the air in contact with it; so that the latter becomes specifically lighter than the superincumbent higher region of the atmosphere, wherein the clouds are usually floated: he supposes also that the air surrounding this tract

tract has not been so much heated during those days, and therefore remains heavier. The consequence of this, he conceives, should be, that the heated lighter air should ascend, and the heavier descend; and as this rising cannot operate throughout the whole tract at once, because that would leave too extensive a vacuum, the rising will begin precisely in that column which happens to be lightest or most rarefied; and the warm air will flow horizontally from all parts of this column, where the several currents meeting, and joining to rise, a whirl is naturally formed, in the same manner as a whirl is formed in a tub of water, by the descending fluid receding from all sides of the tub towards the hole in the centre. And as the several currents arrive at this central rising column, with a considerable degree of horizontal motion, they cannot suddenly change it to a vertical motion; therefore as they gradually, in approaching the whirl, decline from right to curve or circular lines, so, having joined the whirl, they ascend by a spiral motion: in the same manner as the water descends spirally through the hole in the tub before-mentioned.

Lastly, as the lower air nearest the surface is more rarefied by the heat of the sun, it is more impressed by the current of the surrounding cold and heavy air which is to assume its place, and consequently its motion towards the whirl is swiftest, and so the force of the lower part of the whirl strongest, and the centrifugal force of its particles greatest. Hence the vacuum which incloses the axis of the whirl should be greatest near the earth or sea, and diminish gradually as it approaches the region of the clouds, till it ends in a point. This circle is of various diameters, sometimes very large.

If the vacuum passes over water, the water may rise in a body or column therein to the height of thirty-two feet. This whirl of air may be as invisible as the air itself, though
reaching

reaching in reality from the water to the region of cool air, in which our low summer thunder-clouds commonly float; but it will soon become visible at its extremities. The agitation of the water under the whirling of the circle, and the swelling and rising of the water in the commencement of the vacuum, renders it visible below. It is perceived above by the warm air being brought up to the cooler region, where its moisture begins to be condensed by the cold into thick vapour, and is then first discovered at the highest part, which being now cooled condenses what rises behind it, and this latter acts in the same manner on the succeeding body; where, by the contact of the vapours, the cold operates faster in a right line downwards, than the vapours themselves can climb in a spiral line upwards; they climb, however; and, as by continual addition they grow denser, and by consequence increase their centrifugal force, and being risen above the concentrating currents that compose the whirl, they fly off, and form a cloud.

It seems easy to conceive, how, by this successive condensation from above, the spout appears to drop or descend from the cloud, although the materials of which it is composed are all the while ascending. The condensation of the moisture contained in so great a quantity of warm air as may be supposed to rise in a short time in this prodigiously rapid whirl, is perhaps sufficient to form a great extent of cloud, and the friction of the whirling air on the sides of the column may detach great quantities of its water, disperse them into drops, and carry them up in the spiral whirl mixed with the air. The heavier drops may indeed fly off, and fall into a shower about the spout; but much of it will be broken into vapour, and yet remain visible. As the whirl weakens, the tube may apparently separate in the middle; the column of water subsiding, the superior condensed part drawing up to the cloud. The tube or whirl of air may nevertheless remain
entire,

entire, the middle only becoming invifible, as not containing any vifible matter.

Sequel to our Memoirs of that moft Eccentric Character,

THANIEL BENTLEY, ESQ. (commonly called *Dirty Dick*) late of the celebrated *Dirty Warehouse*, in *Leadenhall-street*, (fee pages 90 No. 2, 97 No. 3, and No. 5) containing an Account of his Singular Conduct during the laft 18 Months previous to his retiring from it with an Immense Fortune; and alfo a Description of a remarkable Situation in which the Houfe was found by his Succeffor, Mr. Gofling, in whole favour Mr. B. had declined Buſinefs.

WE have in a former part of this work given the peculiarities of Mr. Bentley, while refident at his dirty houfe, *Leadenhall-street*, accompanied with both his portrait (an acknowledged ſtriking likenefs) and an engraving of the exterior part of his houfe and garden. We ſhall now ſatisfy the curioſity of our numerous Readers by giving them as accurate an account of the interior as poſſible, which, no doubt, will prove far beyond the expectation of the moſt curious; nor ſhould we have been enabled to have given this account now, had his landlord the length of his life. This not being the caſe, and his landlord no longer wiſhing to ſee his extenſive property literally tumbling to the ground for want of neceſſary repairs, Mr. Gofling, (Mr. Bentley's ſucceſſor) has ventured on the arduous task of once more making them tenable. We can now venture to aſſert, that all entrance had been poſitively refuſed for theſe laſt thirty years. He even refuſed admittance to his ground-landlord, as well as to his preſent ſucceſſor, till abſolute neceſſity obliged him to do ſo, and we are informed that Mr. Bentley uſed to ſay that



would not suffer a saint from heaven to go over his house; and one room in particular he would let neither of the above gentlemen see, till its secret contents were removed. The Landlord has since been, we understand, on purpose to satisfy his curiosity in viewing the room he was refused a sight of before.

In consequence of the expiration of the lease, Mr. Bentley was obliged to quit his *dearly beloved premises* a few months ago, and which he did with the utmost regret; though possessed of sufficiency to enjoy the superfluities of life.

So curious was the situation of the house when Mr. Gosling entered it, that he now indulges his customers and the public with a view of the apartments; and we will venture to say that they have been now honoured with more company (we hear by 2000 persons, the first fortnight) than have ever entered them for half a century past. Having been among the number of other curious visitors, we shall give a concise description of the rooms, and leave our readers to form an opinion of the disposition and daily employment of its late inhabitant.

Being under articles to his successor, Mr. Gosling, (whose tenant he had been for the last year, ending Christmas 1803) to forego business, has now retired, and has declared it to be his intention to convince the world that he is a different man to what they take him to be, and means to alter his mode of life, and mix with the brighter circles. Should he do this,

“The lewd rabble that are gathered round to see the fight, will grow mute, when they behold him.”

The ponderous folding doors of the shop, with the rusty bolts, bars, chains, &c. for securing them, are worthy of attention, as are also those of the private door. The ceiling in the hall discovers traces of former elegance, and the

staircase displays much workmanship. In the hall we are informed Mr. Bentley used to indulge himself in winter time with burning charcoal in a chaffing-dish, on an old stool, of which marks may be perceived. On the first flight of stairs, are the remains of a *long extinguished* lamp. The first room we entered on the first floor, is the kitchen; here we perceived a jack, spit, &c. the rusty condition of which demonstrates that it has not moved for many years; it has long been deprived of its chain, with which we understand Mr. Bentley has secured the tea-trays exhibited through the broken panes of his shop windows, to prevent depredations, of which he was ever watchful. Here we saw a clock, once handsome, and no doubt regulated the movements of his father's family, but is now so disguised with dust, that it is only calculated to tell the spectator how many years of filth it has endured, rather than point out the fleeting hours or minutes. The kitchen range, once equally good and useful, has been only used to support a frying-pan without a handle, curiously mended with pegs, in which he used to burn small-coal and charcoal mixed. By this fire he used to cook his own provisions. On the cistern bears his father's initials, N. B. 1721. The furniture consists of a dirty round table, a bottomless chair, made useful by a packing box cover. The dresser and shelves, were only resting places for old shoes, his masquerade wig, cock'd hat, and sword, with broken earthen-ware. The corner cupboard seems to have been the only repository necessary for his daily use. The tin flower vessel was evidently the cleanest article found in the house, from its construction, it bid defiance to all the vermin; on the side of this stood a Chemist's pipkin, supplied with soap, and a brush of his own manufacture, for shaving, and a piece of broken looking glass, curiously inlaid in a piece of wood, the workmanship of his youth. This was evidently the only dressing and sitting room



SCOTT 50

Nathaniel Bentley Esq.^r

The remarkable Dirty Hardware Merchant of Leadenhall Street.

Pub.^d for R. S. Kirby London House Yard & L. Scott. 147. Strand Nov. 30. 1803.

UNION
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room in the house, and may be fairly supposed the room where he took his night's repose. In the passage hung the remains of a cock'd hat, front rim shaped like a coalheaver's, leaving his shoulders well protected in carrying his hardware up and down stairs.

Next to the kitchen is a small study, seemingly long inhabited by spiders, whose self-spun houses graced every part of the walls; here we found among a rubbish of papers the Italian play of Zenobia, and the story of Elizabeth Canning. The closet was full of dirty bottles, by which it seems that Mr. Bentley had formerly studied Chemistry. The ceiling of this room had been elegant, the ground blue, from which he gave it the name of the *blue room*; here it is conjectured, he received the news of his fatal disappointment in marriage. The secretary and bookcase contained many valuable works, the counterpart was his jewellery casket, from which he used to indulge his *female customers* with little ornaments as presents, which never failed of being very productive in his way of business.

The third, which is the dining room, adjoining the last described, contained a large round mahogany table, (according to our engraved representation) and at which Mr. Bentley says the company were entertained at his christening. All the elegancies of this room has its beauties beclouded with dust; the looking glasses and pictures cannot be distinguished from the fable walls; here we saw remnants of chairs, china images, and a number of antique curiosities. The shades of lustres hung round the ceiling bore evident marks of its former respectability, and shews the workmanship of an ingenious artist, as also the chimney piece elegantly carved; the antiquated grate, which was once of high polished steel, has for years fallen a prey to consuming rust; it contains nothing combustible, but seems to groan under an immense burden of mortar and rubbish blown down the chimney.

chimney. The marble sideboard has evidently been in the family a century. The greatest curiosity in this room is the carpet; every one must suppose (till the corners are turned up, and which display a once elegant turkey carpet) that he is only treading on dirty boards. Here are shelves which were put up by Mr. Bentley himself, and closets, one full of pipkins, phials, &c. which he charged the present proprietor to be careful of, as they contained poison enough to destroy half London.

The second floor was a mere repository of rubbish and filth. Here we found a kind of high table, made by himself. The second room contained a large tea-tray rack, manufactured also by Mr. Bentley. In the third room were a heap of feathers, which had been the contents of a bed fallen to pieces on being moved, files of newspapers, and a closet for goods. Here we found Cibber's play of "the Nonjuror." Adjoining this is a small anti-chamber, which was once his mother's favourite dressing-room; concerning which, we are informed Mr. Bentley says, that if she were to return from her grave, and see its present state, she would discard her son. It has been since converted into a workshop, has in it the remains of a forge, workbench, tools for jewelry, smiths'-work, japanning, &c. It has shared the fate of the other rooms, lies neglected, and is nearly blocked up with filth and old iron. Here we are also informed Mr. Bentley used to make his chemical preparatory. In the passage adjoining lies all the account books of his father, which bear evident marks of his regularity in business: and who, no doubt, would be equally mortified with his wife at his son's proceedings, were he to return to have a glimpse at the old premises.

On visiting the garrets, we perceived in one of them pieces of a four-post bed, remains of blankets, pillows, &c. these exceed all description for rottenness and filth. This
room

room bears evident marks of having been once the place of Mr. Bentley's repose. Here was a heap of old shoes and baskets of foul linen, supposed to be cast-off shirts, worse than any in *Rag-Fair*.

In an adjoining small garret, we were informed, stood an old-fashioned couch, or sofa. Here was also a table overspread with sundry globes, and astronomical instruments, the books, telescopes, compasses, &c. we are informed, gave it all the appearance of an astronomer's observatory. Here, it is said, Mr. Bentley spent much time in studying the heavens; it has a door which goes out on the leads, and is a good situation to make observations. This room deserves the attention of the curious.

Such is the present condition of these dirty premises, the above description of which must certainly convey a character of the late possessor better than any pen can delineate. We have noticed in our former account of this extraordinary character, that the surveyor and his attendants in looking over the house did not perceive a single bed, and could not imagine where he slept; we now can assert he latterly made the kitchen his resting place, and generally wrapped himself up in an old great coat, and laid upon the floor, which from the accumulated dirt and rubbish, must have been rendered softer than the bare boards.

As it must take many months to remove the rubbish, the curiosity of the public may (with the permission of the proprietor) for some time to come be satisfied. Many of our numerous readers, no doubt, will be anxious to have ocular demonstration of the wonderful appearance of the interior of the Leadenhall-street warehouse, which, however, in the time of the elder Bentley and Co. was a neat established shop, as will appear from the following correct copy of one of their handbills, with the old sign of the house, found among the rubbish on the premises.



Nathaniel Bentley and John Fisher,

*At the Golden Lyon and Cafe of Knives, near the
Royal African House in Leadenhall-street, London.*

SELLS by Wholesale and Retail, at the cheapest Rates,
all sorts of Knives, Scissors, Razors and Hones, Tobacco-
boxes and Snuff-boxes, Steel, Horn, Pearl or Tortoiseshell:
All sorts of white metal and brass Buttons for Liveries;
Horn and Bell-metal Buttons, Men and Womens Thim-
bles of Steel, Brass, or Bath-metal, with the best of *Lon-*
don Needles and Pins, Needle-books and Cases; all sorts
of Fishing Tackle for Sea or Fresh-water, with Horn, Box,
Ivory or Tortoiseshell Combs, Comb-cases and Comb-brushes,
Tooth-brushes and Toothpick-Cases, Steel and Bath-metal
Shoe Buckles, Spurs and Cork-screws; Steel and Brass
Compasses, Carpenters-Rules and Line-Rules, Dog Collars
and Padlocks, Whipcord, Bone, Pewter and Brass Cur-
tain-Rings, Finger-Rings, Hornbooks and Primmers, Knit-
ting-





JOHN ELWES, ESQ.

ing-Needles, Hog-Rings, Fire-Steels and Tobacco-Tongs, Steel and Whalebone Busks, Hooks and Eyes, Fountain-Pens, Brads and Leather Ink-pots, Ink-horns, Powder-horns and Drinking-horns; Gun-flints, Powder-sticks and Shot-bags, Powder-boxes, Coffee-mills and Snuff-mills, fine Purles of Silk, Hair or Velvet; with all sorts of Necklaces and Pendants, Looking-Glasses, Essence-Bottles, tipt or plain; Dram-bottles, Bone, Wood or Vellum Prospective Glasses; with the best sort of Spectacles and Cases, Clock-lines, Slate-books and Vellum-Books, Steel and Bath-metal Seals, and all sorts of *London, Sheffield and Birmingham* Cutlers Wares.

Note, Any Merchant may be furnish'd with any Quantity to send Abroad, and all Shop-keepers and Country Chapmen, may be as well furnish'd by sending a Letter, as if they were present.

We shall now dismiss the *Golden Lion*, which we may say the sun has changed into the *Black Lion*, and leave the present Mr. Bentley in his retirement, who, "take him all in all, we ne'er shall see his like again."

The Wonderful Life of JOHN ELWES, ESQ. Member in successive Parliaments for Berkshire, supposed to be the greatest Instance of Penury that ever existed.

JOHN ELWES, Esq. like Daniel Dancer, was severely afflicted with the "*insanity of saving*;" but the strange mixture "of penury and prodigality, profusion and meanness," which distinguished Mr. Elwes, rendered him a still more extraordinary character. Probably the life of this very singular man, for which the public are indebted to the elegant pen of Captain Topham, furnished Mr. Cumberland with a hint for his comedy of "*The Jew*," for the avarice of Mr.

Mr. Elwes, like his "Sheva," consisted not in hard-heartedness, but in self-denial, as the following sketch will prove.

Meggot was the family name of Mr. Elwes. When four years old he lost his father; so little is the character of Mr. Elwes to be attributed to him; but from his mother it may be traced at once—for though she was left nearly one hundred thousand pounds by her husband, she starved herself to death.

Mr. Elwes, at an early period of life, was sent to Westminster school, where he continued ten or twelve years. He was a good classical scholar, and it is remarkable he never read after he quitted school. His knowledge in accounts was trifling, and this in some measure accounts for the total ignorance he was always in as to his own affairs.

He was removed from Westminster school to Geneva, where he engaged in pursuits more agreeable to him than study. On his return to England, after an absence of about two or three years, he was introduced to his uncle, Sir Harvey Elwes, who was then living at Stoke, in Suffolk; perhaps as perfect a picture of human penury as ever existed. The attempts of saving money were in him so extraordinary, that Mr. Elwes, perhaps, never quite reached them even at the last period of his life.

On Sir Harvey's death, Mr. Meggot inherited the whole of his fortune, at least two hundred and fifty thousand pounds, and assumed the name of Elwes, as ordered by his uncle's will, and it was imagined his own property amounted to nearly as much as he obtained by his uncle's decease.

Mr. Elwes was now advanced to his fortieth year, and it was fifteen years previous to this period, that he was known in the fashionable circles of London. He had always a turn
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for play, and it was only late in life, and from paying always, and not always being paid, that he conceived a disgust at the inclination. As some proof of his notoriety at that time, as a man of deep play, Mr. Elwes and some others are noticed in a scene in the *Adventures of a Guinea*, for the frequency of their midnight orgies.

Even from his own acknowledgment, few had played deeper than himself, and with success more various. He once played two days and a night without intermission, and the room being a small one, the party were nearly up to their knees in cards. He lost some thousands at that sitting.

The theory which Mr. Elwes professed, "*that it was impossible to ask a gentleman for money*," he perfectly confirmed by practice. On this account he was a very considerable loser by play.

His manners were so gentle, so attentive, so gentlemanly, and so engaging, that rudeness could not ruffle them, nor strong ingratitude break their observance. He was remarkable also for the most gallant disregard of his own person and all care about himself. The instances in younger life, in the most imminent personal hazard, are innumerable: but when age had despoiled him of his activity, and might have rendered care and attention about himself natural, he knew not what they were. He wished none to assist him.—“He was as young as ever—he could walk—he could ride—and he could dance, and he hoped he should not give trouble even when he was old.”—He was, at that time, seventy-five!

After sitting up a whole night at play for thousands, with the most fashionable and profligate men of the time, amidst splendid rooms, gilt sofas, wax-lights, and waiters attendant on his call, he would walk out about four in the morning, not towards home, but into Smithfield! to meet

his own cattle, which were coming to market from Thaydon-hall, a farm of his in Essex. There would this same man, forgetful of the scenes he had just left, stand in the cold or rain, bartering with a carcase-butcher for a shilling! Sometimes when the cattle did not arrive at the hour he expected, he would walk on in the mire to meet them; and, more than once, has gone on foot the whole way to his farm without stopping, which was seventeen miles from London, after sitting up the whole night.

His general mode of travelling was on horseback. To see him setting out on a journey, was a matter truly curious; his first care was to put two or three eggs, boiled hard, into his great coat pocket, or any scraps of bread which he found—baggage he never took—then, mounting one of his hunters, his next attention was to get out of London, into that road where turnpikes were the fewest. Then, stopping under any hedge where grass presented itself for his horse, and a little water for himself, he would sit down and refresh himself and his horse together—here presenting a new species of Bramin, worth five hundred thousand pounds.

At this period of his life, he chiefly resided in Berkshire, at his own seat at Marcham. Here it was he had two sons born, who inherit the greatest part of his property, by a will made about the year 1785.

Mr. Elwes then came to reside at Stoke, in Suffolk, after the death of his uncle. Bad as was the mansion-house he found here, he left one still worse behind him at Marcham, of which the late Colonel Timms, his nephew, used to mention the following proof. A few days after he went thither, a great quantity of rain fell in the night—he had not been long in bed before he felt himself wet through; and putting his hand out of the cloaths, found the rain was dropping through the ceiling upon the bed—he got up
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and moved the bed ; but he had not lain long before he found the same inconvenience. Again he got up, and again the rain came down. At length, after pushing the bed quite round the room, he got into a corner where the ceiling was better secured, and he slept till morning. When he met his uncle at breakfast, he told him what had happened —“ Aye ! aye !” said the old man, “ *I don't mind it myself, but to those who do, that's a nice corner in the rain !*”

Mr. Elwes, on coming into Suffolk, first began to keep fox-hounds ; and his stable of hunters, at that time, was said to be the best in the kingdom.

This was the only instance, in the whole life of Mr. Elwes, of his ever sacrificing money to pleasure, and may be selected, as the only period when he forgot the cares, the perplexities, and the regret, which his wealth occasioned. But even here every thing was done in the most frugal manner. Scrub, in the *Beaux Stratagem*, when compared with Mr. Elwes's huntsman, had an idle life of it. This famous huntsman might have fixed an epoch in the history of servants ; for, in a morning, getting up at four o'clock, he milked the cows—he then prepared breakfast for Mr. Elwes, or any friends he might have with him : then, slipping on a green coat, he hurried into the stable, saddled the horses, got the hounds out of the kennel, and away they went into the field. After the fatigues of hunting, he *refreshed* himself by rubbing down two or three horses as quick as he could : then running into the house to lay the cloth, and wait at dinner ; then hurrying again into the stable to feed the horses—diversified with an *interlude* of the cows again to milk, the dogs to feed, and eight hunters to litter down for the night. What may appear extraordinary, the man lived for some years, though his master used often to call him “ *an id'e dog !*” and say, “ *he wanted to be paid, for doing nothing !*”

An inn upon the road, and an apothecary's bill, were equal objects of Mr. Elwes's aversion. The words "*give*" and "*pay*" were not found in his vocabulary; and therefore, when he once received a very dangerous kick from one of his horses, who fell in going over a leap, nothing could persuade him to have any assistance. He rode the chase through, with his leg cut to the bone; and it was only some days afterwards, when it was feared an amputation would be necessary, that he consented to go up to London, and, hard day! part with some money for advice.

While he kept hounds, a period of nearly fourteen years, Mr. Elwes almost totally resided at Stoke, in Suffolk. From thence he made frequent excursions to Newmarket—but he never engaged on the turf.

Lord Abingdon, when at Newmarket, who was slightly known to Mr. Elwes, in Berkshire, had made a match for seven thousand pounds, which it was supposed he would be obliged to forfeit, from an inability to produce the sum, though the odds were greatly in his favour.—Unasked, unsolicited, Mr. Elwes made him an offer of the money, which he accepted, and won his engagement. The generosity of this act no one will deny; but it was the fate of Mr. Elwes to combine some great actions with a meanness so extraordinary, that he no longer appeared one and the same person.

He would not bestow any money on the education of his sons, for "putting things into people's heads was the sure way to take money out of their pockets." That he was not troubled with too much affection for them, this anecdote will testify. One day he had put his eldest boy upon a ladder, to get some grapes for the table, when, by the ladder slipping, he fell down, and hurt his side against the end of it. The boy had the precaution to go up

up into the village to the barber, and get blooded: on his return, he was asked where he had been, and what was the matter with his arm? He told his father that he had got bled—"Bled! Bled!" said the old gentleman, "but what did you give?"—"A shilling," answered the boy:—"Psha!" returned the father, "you are a blockhead! never part with *your blood!*"

Mr. Elwes knew very little of accounts, and never reduced his affairs to writing—he was therefore obliged, in the disposal of his money, to trust much to memory—to the suggestions of other people still more. Hence every person who had a want or a scheme, with an apparent high interest—adventurer or honest it signified not—all was prey to him; and he swam about like the *enormous pike*, which, ever voracious and unsatisfied, catches at every thing, till it is itself caught!—Hence are to be reckoned visions of distant property in America, phantoms of annuities on lives that could never pay, and bureaus filled with bonds of *promising* peers and members, long *dismembered* of all property. Mr. Elwes lost in this manner, during his life, full one hundred and fifty thousand pounds!

Here there was a reflux of part of that wealth which he was denying himself every comfort to amass. He would walk home in the rain, in London, sooner than pay a shilling for a coach: he would sit in wet clothes, sooner than have a fire to dry them: he would eat his provisions in the last stage of putrefaction, sooner than have a fresh joint from the butcher's: and he wore a wig for a fortnight, which he had picked out of a rut in a lane, and which from its appearance, had probably been thrown away by some beggar.

Mr. Elwes, from his father, Mr. Meggot, had inherited some property in houses in London; particularly about the Haymarket, not far from which old Mr. Elwes drew his
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first breath, being born in St. James's parish. To this property he began now to add, by engagements with one of the Adams's about building, which he increased from year to year to a very large extent. Great part of Marybone soon called him her founder. Portland-place and Portman-square, the riding-houses and stables of the second troop of life-guards, and buildings too numerous to name, all rose out of his pocket.

In so many houses of course it would happen that some were occasionally without a tenant; and, therefore, it was the custom of Mr. Elwes, whenever he went to London, to occupy any of these premises which might happen to be vacant. He had thus a new way of seeing London and its inhabitants—for he travelled in this manner from street to street; and whenever any body chose to take the house, where he was, he was always ready to move into any other. He was frequently an itinerant for a night's lodging; and though master of above an hundred houses, he never wished to rest his head long in any he chose to call his own. A couple of beds, a couple of chairs, a table, and an old woman, were all his furniture; and he moved them about at a minute's warning. Of all these moveables, the old woman was the only one that gave him trouble, for she was afflicted with a lameness that made it difficult to get her about quite so fast as he chose; and then the colds she took were amazing! for sometimes she was in a small house in the Haymarket; at another in a great house in Portland-place; sometimes in a little room and a coal fire; at other times with a few chips which the carpenters had left, in rooms of most splendid and frigid dimensions, and with a little oiled paper in the windows for glass. In truth, she perfectly realized the words of the Psalmist—for, though the old woman might not be wicked, she certainly was, "here to day, and gone to-morrow." The scene which terminated the

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the life of this old woman, is not the least singular among the anecdotes that are recorded of Mr. Elwes, but it is too well authenticated to be doubted. Mr. Elwes had come to town in his usual way—and taken up his abode in one of his houses that were empty. Colonel Timms, who wished much to see him, by some accident was informed that his uncle was in London; but then how to find him was the difficulty. He enquired at all the usual places where it was probable he might be heard of: he went to Mr. Hoare's, his banker—to the Mount Coffee-house—but no tidings were to be heard of him. Not many days afterwards, however, he learnt from a person whom he met accidentally, that they had seen Mr. Elwes going into an uninhabited house in Great Marlborough-street. This was some clue to Colonel Timms: and away he went thither. As the best mode of information, he got hold of a *chairman*—but no intelligence could be gained of a *gentleman* called Mr. Elwes. Colonel Timms then described his person—but no *gentleman* had been seen. A pot-boy, however, recollected that he had seen a poor old man opening the door of the stable, and locking it after him: and from every description, it agreed with the person of old Mr. Elwes. Of course, Colonel Timms went to the house:—he knocked very loudly at the door—but no one answered. Some of the neighbours said they had seen such a man, but no answer could be obtained from the house. On this added information, however, Colonel Timms resolved to have the stable door opened, and a blacksmith was sent for—and they entered the house together. In the lower parts of it—all was shut and silent. On ascending the stair-case, however, they heard the moans of a person seemingly in distress. They went to the chamber—and there, upon an old pallet bed, lay stretched out, seemingly in death, the figure of old Mr. Elwes. For
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some time he seemed insensible that any body was near him; but, on some cordials being administered by a neighbouring apothecary, who was sent for, he recovered enough to say—"That he had, he believed, been ill for two or three days, and that there was an old woman in the house, but for some reason or other she had not been near him. That she had been ill herself, but that she had got well, he supposed, and gone away."

They afterwards found the old woman—the companion of all his movements, and the partner of all his journeys—stretched out lifeless on a rug upon the floor, in one of the garrets. To all appearances she had been dead about two days.

Thus died the servant; and thus would have died, but for the providential discovery of him by Colonel Timms, old Mr. Elwes, her master.

About thirteen years Mr. Elwes had resided in Suffolk, during which he had acted as a magistrate with impartiality and uprightness several years. When the contest for Berkshire presented itself, on the dissolution of parliament; and when, to preserve the peace of that county, he was nominated by Lord Craven, and agreed to the proposal. He was to be brought in for nothing. All he did was dining at the ordinary at Abingdon, and he obtained a seat in parliament for *eighteen-pence*! At this time he was sixty years old. He removed from Suffolk to his seat in Marcham: he took his hounds with him; but finding his time would in all probability be much employed, he relinquished them, and shortly after they were given away to some farmers in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Elwes made no alteration in his dress, on his being honoured with a seat in the British parliament, but on the contrary, he seemed at this time to have attained additional meanness, and nearly to have reached that happy climax
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of poverty, which has more than once drawn on him the compassion of those who passed him in the street.

He was chosen for Berkshire in three successive parliaments, and he sat as member of the House of Commons for twelve years. He had obtained his seat without expence, and he performed his duty as a member would have done in the *pure* days of our constitution. What he had not *bought*, he never attempted to *sell*, and he went forward in that straight and direct path, which can alone satisfy a reflecting mind. A more faithful, a more industrious, or a more incorruptible representative of a county never entered the doors of the House of Commons of England. It was probable he might have been elected a fourth time, notwithstanding he assisted with his vote *the greatest monster in politics*—the coalition; but the rage which had gone forth against it and its principles, giving reason to suppose the election would be contested, Mr. Elwes, frightened at the thoughts of expence, took leave of his constituents by an advertisement.

It was said Mr. Elwes retired from parliament from a dread of expence, yet he has frequently been heard to say, that three contested elections would not have cost him more than he lost by his brother representatives. It is incredible the sums he parted with; could the uncanceled bonds be paid on the table of the House of Commons, some *orators* on both sides of the house, would probably be struck dumb.

Mr. Elwes was in time conquered of this passion for lending, and an unfortunate proposal which was made him of vesting twenty-five thousand pounds in some iron works in America, gave at last a fatal blow to his various speculations.—The plan had been so plausibly laid before him that he had not a doubt of its success; but he had the disappointment never more to hear of his iron or his gold.

Among the sums he vested in other people's hands, some *stray, forlorn* instances of feeling may be remembered; of which the following is an instance:—When his son was in the guards, he was frequently in the habit of dining at the officers table there. The politeness of his manners rendered him agreeable to every one, and in time he became acquainted with every officer in the corps; amongst the rest, with a gentleman of the name of Tempest, whose good humour was almost proverbial. A vacancy happening in a majority, it fell to this gentleman to purchase; but as money is not always to be got upon landed property immediately, it was imagined some officer would have been obliged to purchase over his head. Old Mr. Elwes heard of the circumstance, and sent him the money next morning. He asked no security—he had seen Captain Tempest, and liked his manners; and he never once afterwards talked to him about the payment of it. On the death of Captain Tempest, which happened shortly after, the money was replaced. That Mr. Elwes was no loser by the event, does not take away from the merit of the deed; and it stands amongst those singular records of his character, that reason has to reconcile, or philosophy to account for, that the same man, at one and the same moment, could be prodigal of thousands, and yet almost deny to himself the necessities of life.

At this time he was in possession of seven hundred thousand pounds, and lived upon *fifty pounds a year!*

For some years Mr. Elwes had been a member of a card club at the Mount coffee-house; and by a constant attendance on this meeting, he, for a time, consoled himself for the loss of parliament. The play was moderate, and he had an opportunity of meeting many of his old acquaintances in the House of Commons; and he experienced a pleasure, which, however trivial it may appear, was not
less

less satisfactory—that of enjoying fire and candle at a general expence.

Mr. Elwes therefore passed much of his time in the Mount coffee-house. But fortune seemed resolved, on some occasions, to disappoint his hopes, and to force away that money from him which no power could persuade him to bestow. He still retained some fondness for play, and imagined he had no small skill at picquet. It was his ill luck, however, to meet with a gentleman who thought the same, and on much better grounds; for after a contest of two days and a night, in which Mr. Elwes continued with a perseverance which avarice will inspire, he rose a loser of a sum which he always endeavoured to conceal—though I have some reason to think, says Captain Topham, it was not less than three thousand pounds. Some part of it was paid by a large draft on Messrs Hoares, and was received very early the next morning. This was the last folly, of the kind, of which Mr. Elwes was ever guilty; and it is but justice to the members of the club to say, that they ever after endeavoured to discourage any wish to play with him. Thus, while by every art of human mortification he was saving shillings and sixpences, he would kick down in one moment the heap he had raised. Though the benefit of this consideration was thrown away upon him, for his maxim always was, which he frequently repeated, “*That all great fortunes were made by saving: for of that a man could be sure.*”

He wished again at the close of the spring of 1785, to visit his seat at Stoke, which he had not done for some years. But then the journey was a most serious object to him. The famous old servant was dead; all the horses that remained with him were a couple of worn-out blood mares, and he himself was not in that vigour of body, in which he could ride sixty or seventy miles on the sustenance of

two boiled eggs. The mention of a post-chaise would have been a crime.—“ *He* afford a *post-chaise*, indeed! where was *he* to get the money!” would have been his exclamation.

He at length was carried into the country, as he was carried into parliament, free of expence, by a gentleman who was certainly not quite so rich as Mr. Elwes.

At his house at Stoke, the rooms that were now out of repair, and would have all fallen in, but for his son, John Elwes, Esq. who had resided there, he thought too expensively furnished, as worse things might have done. If a window was broken, there was to be no repair but that of a little brown paper, or that of piecing in a bit of broken glass, which had at length been done so frequently, and in so many shapes, that it would have puzzled a mathematician to say “ what figure they described.” To save fire, he would walk about the remains of an old green-house, or sit with a servant in the kitchen. During the harvest he would amuse himself with going into the fields to glean the corn on the grounds of his own tenants; and they used to leave a little more than common, to please the old gentleman, who was as eager after it as any pauper in the parish.

His morning employment, in the advance of the season, was to pick up any stray chips, bones, or other things, to carry to the fire in his pocket; and he was one day surprised by a neighbouring gentleman in the act of pulling down, with some difficulty, a crow’s nest for this purpose. On the gentleman wondering why he gave himself this trouble—“ Oh, Sir, (replied old Elwes) it is really a shame that these creatures should do so. Do but see what waste they make! They don’t care how extravagant they are!”

No gleam or favourite passion, or any ray of amusement having broke through this gloom of penury, his insatiable desire of saving was now become uniform and systematic,

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He used still to ride about the country on one of these mares, but then he rode her very economically; on the soft turf adjoining the road, without putting himself to the expence of shoes—as he observed, “The turf was so pleasant to a horse’s foot!” And when any gentleman called to pay him a visit, and the boy who attended in the stable was profuse enough to put a little hay before his horse, old Elwes would slyly steal back into the stable, and take the hay very carefully away.

Mr. Elwes had in some measure restrained that very strong appetite which he had, during the long sitting of parliament, and now indulged most voraciously, and on every thing he could find. To save, as he thought, the expence of going to a butcher, he would have a whole sheep killed, and so eat mutton to the end of the chapter. When he occasionally had his river drawn, though sometimes horse-loads of small fish were taken, not one would he suffer to be thrown in again, for he observed, “He should never see them again!” Game in the last state of putrefaction, and meat that *walked about his plate*, would he continue to eat, rather than have new things killed before the old provision was finished. With this diet, the charnel house of sustenance, his dress kept pace, equally in the last stage of absolute dissolution. Sometimes he would walk about in a tattered brown-coloured hat, and sometimes in a red and white woollen cap, like a prisoner confined for debt.

If any friends who might occasionally be with him, were absent, he would carefully put out his own fire, and walk to the house of a neighbour; and thus make one fire serve both. His shoes he never would suffer to be cleaned, lest they should be worn out the sooner. In short, whatever Cervantes or Moliere have pictured, in their more sportive moods, of avarice in the extreme, here might they have seen realised or surpassed!

Mr.

Mr. Elwes now almost denied himself all but the common necessities of life, and indeed it might have admitted a doubt whether or not, if his manors, his fish-ponds, and some grounds, in his own hands, had not furnished a subsistence, where he had not any thing actually to buy, he would not, rather than have bought any thing, have starved;—strange as this may appear, it is not exaggerated. He one day during this period, dined upon the remaining part of a moor-hen, which had been brought out of the river by a rat! and at another, eat an undigested part of a pike, which the larger one had swallowed, but had not finished, and which were taken in this state in a net! At the time this last circumstance happened, he discovered a strange kind of satisfaction, for he said to Captain Topham—"aye! this was killing two birds with one stone!" In the room of all comment—of all moral—it may be said, that, at this time, Mr. Elwes was perhaps worth nearly eight hundred thousand pounds! and, at this period, he had not made his will, of course, was not saving from any sentiment of affection for any person.

Mr. Elwes passed the spring of 1786 alone at his solitary house at Stoke. In the day he would not allow himself any fire, he went to bed as soon as day closed, to save candle, and had begun to deny himself even the pleasure of sleeping in sheets. In short, he had now nearly brought to a climax the moral of his whole life—the perfect vanity of wealth.

He removed from Stoke to his farm-house at Thraydon Hall; a scene of more ruin and desolation, if possible, than either his house in Suffolk or Berkshire. It stood alone, on the borders of Epping-Forest: and an old man and woman, his tenants, were the only persons with whom he could hold any converse. Here he fell ill; and, as he would have no assistance, and had not even a servant, he lay, unattended
and

and almost forgotten, for nearly a fortnight—indulging, even in death, that avarice which malady could not subdue. It was at this period he began to think of making his will—feeling perhaps, that his sons would not be entitled, by law, Mr. Elwes never having been married, to any part of his property, should he die intestate—and, on coming to London, he made his last will and testament, bequeathing the whole of his immense property, amounting, it is said, to five hundred thousand pounds, to his two sons George and John Elwes.

The entailed estates fall to Mr. Timms, son of the late Richard Timms, Lieutenant-Colonel of the second troop of horse-guards, who married Mr. Elwes's only sister.

The sons were his natural children, by Elizabeth Moren, formerly his housekeeper at Marcham in Berkshire.

Mr. Elwes, shortly after executing his will, gave, by letter of attorney, the power of managing, receiving, and paying all his monies, into the hands of Mr. Ingraham, his lawyer, and his youngest son, John Elwes, Esq. who had been his chief agents for some time.

This plan was by no means improper, as the lapses of his memory had now become frequent and glaring. All recent occurrences he forgot entirely; and as he never committed any thing to writing, the confusion he made was inexpressible. As an instance of this, the following anecdote related of him will prove. He had one evening given a draft on Messrs. Hoares, his bankers, for twenty pounds; and having taken it into his head, during the night, that he had over-drawn his account, his anxiety was unceasing. He left his bed, and walking about his room with that little feverish irritation that always distinguished him, waited with the utmost impatience till morning came, when, on going to his banker, with an apology for the great liberty he had taken, he was assured there was no occasion for his apology,

as he happened to have in their hands at that time, the small sum of fourteen thousand seven hundred pounds !

Singular as this act of forgetfulness may appear, it serves to mark, amidst all his anxiety about money, that extreme conscientiousness, which was to the honour of his character. If accident placed him in debt to any person, even in the most trivial manner, he was never easy till it was paid ; and it should be noted, that never was he known on any occasion to fail in what he said. Of the punctuality of his word, he was so scrupulously tenacious, that no person ever requested better security ; and he was so particular in every thing of promise, that in any appointment or meeting, or the hour of it, he exceeded even military exactness.

Mr. Elwes passed the summer of 1788 at his house in Welbeck-street, London, without any other society than that of two maid-servants: for he had now given up the expence of keeping any male domestic. His chief employment used to be that of getting up early in the morning to visit his houses in Marybone, which during the summer were repairing. As he was there generally at four o'clock in the morning, he was of course on the spot before the workmen ; and he used contentedly to sit down on the steps before the door to scold them when they did come. The neighbours, who used to see him appear thus regular every morning, and who concluded, from his apparel, he was one of the workmen, observed, " there never was so punctual a man as the old carpenter." During the whole morning he would continue to run up and down stairs, to see the men were not idle for an instant, with the same anxiety as if his whole happiness in life had been centered in the finishing this house, regardless of the greater property he had at stake in various places, and for ever employed in the *minutiae* only of affairs. Indeed such was his anxiety about this house, the rent of which was not above fifty pounds

pounds a year, that it brought on a fever which nearly cost him his life.

Mr. Elwes lived to about seventy years of age without any natural disorder attacking him: but, as Lord Bacon has well observed, "the minds of some men are a lamp that is continually burning;" and such was the mind of Mr. Elwes. Removed from those occasional public avocations which had once engaged his attention, money was now his only thought. He rose upon money; upon money he lay down to rest; and as his capacity funk away from him by degrees, he dwindled from the real cares of his property, into the puerile concealment of a few guineas. This little store he would carefully wrap up in various papers, and depositing them in different corners, would amuse himself with running from one to the other, to see whether they were all safe. Then forgetting, perhaps, where he had concealed some of them, he would become as seriously afflicted as a man might be who had lost all his property. Nor was the day alone thus spent: he would frequently rise in the middle of the night, and be heard walking about different parts of the house, looking after what he had thus hidden and forgotten.

At seventy-six years old, or upwards, Mr. Elwes began to feel, for the first time, some bodily infirmities from age. He now experienced occasional attacks from the gout; on which, with his usual perseverance, and with all his accustomed antipathy to apothecaries, and their bills, he would set out to walk as far and as fast as he could. While he was engaged in this painful mode of cure, he frequently lost himself in the streets, the names of which he no longer remembered, and was as frequently brought home by some errand-boy, or stranger, of whom he had inquired his way. On these occasions he would bow and thank them, at the door, with great civility: but never indulged them with a sight of the inside of the house.

During the winter of 1789, the last winter Mr. Elwes was fated to see, his memory visibly weakened every day; and, from his unceasing wish to save money, he now began to apprehend he should die in want of it. Mr. Gibson had been appointed his builder in the room of Mr. Adam; and one day when this gentleman waited upon him, he said with apparent concern, "Sir, pray consider in what a wretched state I am; you see in what a good house I am living, and here are five guineas, which is all I have at present; and how I shall go on with such a sum of money, puzzles me to death—I dare say you thought I was rich; now you see how it is!"

About this time Mr. George Elwes, his elder son, married a young lady, not less distinguished for her engaging manners than for her beauty. She was a Miss Alt, of Northamptonshire, and is the god-daughter of Mr. Hastings. She is, indeed, a lady of whom any father might be proud; but pride, or even concern, in these matters, were not passions likely to affect Mr. Elwes; as a circumstance which happened a few years before, in a case not dissimilar, will prove.

His son at that time had paid his addresses to a niece of Dr. Noel, of Oxford, who, of course, thought it proper to wait upon old Mr. Elwes, to apprise him of the circumstance, and to ask his consent. Old Mr. Elwes had not the least objection. Doctor Noel was very happy to hear it, as a marriage between the young people might be productive of happiness to both. Old Mr. Elwes had not the least objection to any body marrying whatever. "This ready acquiescence is so obliging!" said the Doctor—"But doubtless you feel for the mutual wishes of the parties." "I dare say I do," replied the old gentleman. "Then, Sir," said Doctor Noel, "you have no objection to an immediate union? You see I talk freely on the subject." Old Mr.

Elwes

Elwes had no objection to any thing. "Now then, Sir," observed Dr. Noel, "we have only one thing to settle; and you are so kind, there can be no difficulty about the matter; as I shall behave liberally to my niece—what do you mean to give your son?"—"Give!" said old Elwes, "sure I did not say any thing about *giving*; but, if you wish it so much, I will *give* my *consent*."

One singularity more was still reserved for the close of Mr. Elwes's life, and which will not be held less singular than all that has passed before it, when his disposition and his advanced age are considered. He *gave* away his affections; he conceived the *tender passion*! In plain terms, having been accustomed for some time to pass his hours, from economy, with the two maid-servants in the kitchen—one of them had the art to induce him to *fall in love* with her; and it is matter of doubt, had it not been discovered, whether she would not have had the power over him to have made him marry her.

But the attention of his friends saved him from this last act of madness; in which, perhaps the pitiable infirmity of nature, weakened and worn down by age and perpetual anxiety, is in some measure to be called to account. At those moments, when the cares of money left him somewhat of ease, he had no domestic scene of happiness to which he could fly; and therefore felt with more sensibility an act of kindness that might come from any quarter; and thus, when his two sons were absent, having no one near him whom principle made assiduous, those who might be interested, too frequently gained his attention.

Mr. George Elwes having settled by this time at his seat at Marcham, in Berkshire, he was naturally desirous, that, in the assiduities of his wife, his father might at length find a comfortable home. In London he was certainly most uncomfortable; but still, with these temptations
before,

before and behind him, a journey, with any expence annexed to it, was insurmountable. This, however, was luckily obviated by an offer from Mr. Partis, a gentleman of the law, to take him to his ancient seat in Berkshire, with his purse perfectly whole—a circumstance so pleasing that the general intelligence which renders this gentleman so entertaining, was not adequate to it in the opinion of Mr. Elwes. But there was one circumstance still very distressing—the old gentleman had now nearly worn out his last coat, and he would not buy a new one: his son, therefore, with a pious fraud, that did him honour, contrived to get Mr. Partis to buy him a coat, and make him a present of it. Thus formerly having had a good coat, then a bad one, and at last no coat at all, he was kind enough to accept one from a neighbour.

Mr. Elwes, on the day before he took his gratuitous journey into Berkshire, he delivered to Mr. Partis that copy of his last will and testament, which he himself had kept, to be carried to Messrs. Hoares, his bankers.

Mr. Elwes took with him into Berkshire five guineas and an half, and half a crown. Lest the mention of this sum may appear singular, it should be said, that, previous to his journey, he had carefully wrapped it up in various folds of paper, that no part of it might be lost. On the arrival of the old gentleman, Mr. George Elwes and his wife, whose good temper might well be expected to charm away the irritations of avarice and age, did every thing they could to make the country a scene of quiet to him. But “he had that within” which baffled every effort of this kind. Of his heart it might be said, “there was no peace in Israel.” His mind, cast away upon the vast and troubled ocean of his property, extending beyond the bounds of his calculation, returned to amuse itself with fetching and carrying about a few guineas, which, in that ocean, was indeed a drop.

Mr.

Mr. Elwes retained his singularities till within a few days of his dissolution, and walked on foot twelve miles but a fortnight before he died.

Dissolution now stared him in the face, and he was unable to enjoy his rest at night. Frequently would he be heard at midnight as if struggling with some one in his chamber, and crying out, "I will keep my money, I will; nobody shall rob me of my property!" On any one of the family going into his room, he would start from his fever of anxiety, and, as if wakened from a troubled dream, again hurry into bed, and seem unconscious of what had happened. At other times, when perfectly awake, he would walk to the spot where he had hidden his money, to see if it was safe.

In the autumn of 1789 his memory was gone entirely, his perception of things was decreasing very rapidly, and as the mind became unsettled, gusts of the most violent passion usurped the place of his former command of temper. For six weeks previous to his death, he would go to rest in his clothes, as perfectly dressed as during the day. He was one morning found fast asleep betwixt the sheets, with his shoes on his feet, his stick in his hand, and an old torn hat upon his head.

On the 18th of November, 1789, Mr. Elwes discovered signs of that utter and total weakness, which carried him to his grave in eight days. On the evening of the first day he was conveyed to bed—from which he rose no more. His appetite was gone. He had but a faint recollection of any thing about him, and his last coherent words were addressed to his son, Mr. John Elwes, in hoping "he had left him what he wished." On the morning of the 26th of November he expired without a sigh!

Thus died John Elwes, Esq. one of the most extraordinary characters that ever lived, and the most perfect model

model of human penury which has been presented to the public for a long series of years.

A Singular Deception, a remarkable Occurrence near Boroughbridge.

A SINGULAR occurrence has recently taken place at Mytton Old Hall, near Boroughbridge. This house had for a considerable time been untenanted, owing to a rumour very generally circulated in that part of the country that it was haunted. About a year since a very respectable family, despising such ridiculous notions, entered upon the premises, which they inhabited for some time undisturbed. The particular room which had been pointed out was used as the bed-room of one of the tenant's daughters, and a young lady then on a visit to her. Strange noises were occasionally heard, and being generally attributed to a servant, he was discharged upon suspicion. However, about the middle of last November the two young ladies were awakened by what they thought was the snapping of a pistol by their bed side. They listened for some time with considerable anxiety and alarm, scarcely daring to breathe; when at last, by an invincible power, they were forced out of the bed and room, with so much violence, that the noise was distinctly heard over the whole house. In consequence of this extraordinary event, every possible search was made, and—

“Those felt doubts, who ne'er felt doubts before.”

The respectability of the family, and the acknowledged veracity of the terrified females, induced many confident visitors, clergymen, and others, to examine into the cause of such strange occurrences. Clergymen have slept in the room, and others have watched throughout the whole night; but all experienced similar disturbances, with more or less violence, and have quitted the house in silent thought and reflection

reflection upon the origin of what they uniformly believe to be the work of no human means. The family are leaving the residence, which they can no longer tenant with domestic comfort. At a future period the artificer will no doubt be detected, and we trust the contriver of so mischievous a device will not escape unpunished.



A Remarkable FEMALE SWINDLER at Vienna.

IN Autumn 1803, a lady calling herself the Baroness Von Fittan arrived at Vienna, in a brilliant equipage, attended by four men servants and two maids. She took very elegant apartments, which she furnished in style. All her expences were paid in ready money and in gold. She was presented at Court, and in the first circles, as the widow of a Prussian Colonel, immensely rich. In November she received a credit from a banking house at Hamburgh, upon one of the first Bankers at Vienna, for 50,000 florins. Her expences and insinuating manners, with a tolerable good person, and the character of a widow in affluence, procured her numerous admirers and a number of suitors; amongst others, several of the young nobility. She declined, however, all offers of marriage, having determined upon an eternal widowhood, in gratitude for the large fortune left her by her ever regretted husband. She went regularly to church, and to confession, was irreproachable in her conduct, and chaste in her manners and conversation. She was looked upon as a model of virtue and religion, and soon became the envy of her own sex, in becoming the admiration of the other. She was very charitable to the poor, visited often the hospitals, and subscribed largely to philanthropic institutions. The house opposite to her apartments belonged to a young man, son of a grocer, who had a very high opinion of his own person and merit, because his father had left

left him 300,000 florins. He addressed himself to one of her servants, to have a letter delivered to the Baroness with an offer of his hand and fortune, but was repulsed with indignity. For a large present the same servant undertook again, though at the risk of losing his service, to carry another letter, which met with a less severe reception. The Baroness being smitten with the person of the young man, whom at last she admitted privately into her presence, agreed after many prayers, sighs, tears, and presents to give him her hand next Easter; but having refused so many great people, the young man was laid under strict secrecy, and their marriage was to be celebrated at Berlin.

In December last she received a letter, importing that her younger sister was promised to a Silesian Nobleman. She consulted her secret lover, whom she had persuaded to believe that she had a fortune of 200,000 florins in the year, about the present she should make her sister on her wedding day, and it was agreed they could not be of less value than 60,000 florins laid out in diamonds; and as she wanted to choose, the young man was desired to bring 200,000 worth from his uncle, a jeweller, whom she said she would pay in ready money for what she determined to keep.

The diamonds were brought in the evening, and left for her inspection until the next day. But when the young man called at the appointed time, the servants said their mistress was ill, and could see no company before the day after; and when the duped lover then returned, he was informed that the Baroness, with one of the female servants, had, forty-eight hours before, left the house; but previously left orders to declare her ill if inquired after; as she was going to the Ursuline Convent to make her devotions. She had indeed been there, but swindled the superior of a brilliant cross of the greatest value, which the late Empress Maria Theresa had given to the statue of a miraculous



WONDERFUL MUSEUM.



JOHN VINE
 the
CELEBRATED KENTISH and SURREY
MOLECATCHER.

Pub by Alex. Hogg 16 Paternoster-row April 1 1844



culous virgin, and the Baroness had borrowed it as a pattern for one she intended to give her sister.

She had the same day been at her banker's, and upon pretence of buying jewels for her sister's marriage, had obtained in gold, and in bank-notes, for bills on Hamburgh, 100,000 florins more than she had credit for. It has since been found out that she had played the same tricks at Berlin, Dresden, and at Naples. Couriers have been sent every where after her, but in vain; the only information obtained is, that a lady nearly answering the description, had embarked last month at Embden, either for England, or for America. It is said, that her desolate and deserted lover is now on his way to this country; and if he can find her out, intends to forgive, and marry her. She is about twenty-five years of age, speaks fluently most European languages, has a fine taste for drawing, and plays the piano-forte in exquisite style.

An Account of JOHN VINE, the celebrated Kentish and Surry MOLE-CATCHER; with a striking Likeness copied from an original Painting, by Permission, in the Possession of Mr. Strugnell, at the Hare and Hounds, Wadon, near Croydon, Surry, including a Description of that singular little animal the MOLE.

JOHN VINE, the subject of this article, now resides at Croydon, in Surry, is famous in the neighbourhood of that place, as well as many parts of Kent, as the most expert mole-catcher. The Earl of Derby, whose favourite villa is the Oaks near Bansted Downs, and likewise the Earl of Liverpool, at Combhurst, have both patronized this old man, as well as the principal farmers for several miles round.

He was born at Burwash, in Sussex, in the year 1733.

His father was a reputable farmer of good property, and gave his son a tolerable good education. Young Vine was particularly attached to the study of land-measuring and surveying, and became very expert in those arts. When he grew up, his father placed him in a good farm of 120*l.* per annum, and furnished him with money to carry it on. But through misfortune, and perhaps some misconduct, he ran through the whole of his fortune in less than nine years, and was very soon reduced to great distress. Not knowing what step to take, he at length resolved to visit London, where, not meeting with immediate employment, he soon spent what trifle he brought with him, and was reduced to the necessity of disposing of his surveying instruments and books for a fourth of their value, to purchase the necessaries of life. He was now obliged to put up with the most laborious work in a garden, that of wheeling manure, &c. but finding this too heavy, he soon declined it. He then, through the assistance of friends, took a small day-school at Deptford, where he taught writing, accounts, surveying, &c. Here he had every prospect of success, but the sad disaster of the small-pox breaking out very rapidly at this place, his school was deserted, and he was obliged to give it up.

He next engaged with a gentleman at Horne, in Surry, as bailiff in the farming business. His master placing great confidence in him, and finding him very expert in his business, bought him a fine gelding, boots, and spurs; he now looked upon himself, as he says, as a sort of a second-hand gentleman. But poor Vine, as if misfortune ever awaited him, enjoyed this advancement but a short time, for in less than a year he quitted his situation.

He now resolved to pursue his favourite employment, mole-catching, which he had partly learnt, and was very partial to as an amusement, when young at home with his father.

father. He has followed this line many years with great success. He now is considerably advanced in years, is very thin and tall, and is a very inoffensive man, having all his faculties entire. He is well known at Croydon and Waden, as well as most towns and villages in Surry and Kent. He occasionally receives pecuniary assistance from some of the humane and respectable inhabitants of Croydon, &c. which, with his own industry, he is rendered tolerably comfortable, and it is hoped when feebleness and decrepitude come on, they will still farther render, by their kind donations, that part of his life supportable.

He generally travels with an ass and his dog, with his moletraps, &c. and he frequently says, " 'Tis true I am slow, but pretty sure, for I have been the death of thousands." Extraordinary as it may appear, it is said he can tell instantly he enters a field, whether there are any moles without the usual signs of mole-hills, &c.

We shall here take an opportunity of giving a description of that wonderful little animal, the Mole.

The Mole is formed to live wholly under the earth, as if nature meant that no place should be left entirely untenanted: From our own sensations, we should naturally imagine, that the life of a quadruped, condemned to hunt under ground for its prey, and whenever it removed from one place to another, obliged to force its way through a resisting body, must be the most frightful and solitary in nature; but notwithstanding all these seeming inconveniences, we discover no signs of distress or wretchedness in this animal. No quadruped appears fatter, none has a more sleek or glossy skin.

The Mole is of the size between the rat and the mouse, but does not resemble either, being an animal of a very singular kind, and very different from any other quadruped. It is clothed with fine short glossy black hair. Its nose is long and

pointed like that of a hog, but much longer in proportion. Instead of external ears, it has only holes, and its eyes are so very small that it is extremely difficult to discover them. The ancients and some of the moderns were of opinion, that this animal was totally blind; but Dr. Derham discovered with a microscope all the parts of the eye that are known in other animals; such as the pupil, the vitreous and the chrystalline humours. The smallness of the eyes is a peculiar happiness to this animal; a small degree of vision being sufficient for a creature that is ever destined to a subterraneous abode. Had these organs been larger, they would have been continually liable to injuries, by the earth falling into them: nature has therefore made them very small, and, as a farther defence from that inconvenience, has covered them with fur. Anatomists mention another wonderful contrivance that contributes to their security, assuring us that they are furnished with a certain muscle, by which they can draw back or exert the eye, whenever it is necessary or in danger.

To compensate for the dimness of its sight, the Mole enjoys two other senses in the highest perfection; those of hearing and smelling: the first gives it the most early notice of the approach of danger; the other, in the midst of darkness, directs it to find its food. The nose also, being long and slender, is well adapted for thrusting into small holes, in search of worms and other insects that inhabit them. When it has buried itself in the earth, it seldom stirs out unless compelled by violent rains; or when in pursuit of its prey, it comes too near the surface, and gets into the open air, which may be considered as its unnatural element. It usually chooses the softer grounds, as it can travel through them with less labour, and as the greatest number of worms and insects, on which it preys, are to be found there.

The breadth, strength, and shortness of the fore-feet, which

which are inclined sideways in this animal, answer the use as well as form of hands, to scoop out the earth, to form its habitation, or to pursue its prey. Longer legs would have prevented the quick repetition of its strokes in working; and the oblique position of the fore-feet, throws all the loose soil behind the animal. The form of its body is also admirably contrived for its way of life: the fore part is thick and very muscular, giving great strength to the action of the fore-feet: and the hinder-parts, which are small and taper, enable it to pass with great facility through the earth.

This animal has six cutting-teeth in the upper, and eight in the lower-jaw, with two canine in each. It has so tough a skin that it is difficult to cut through it: the fur is short, close set, and softer than the finest velvet. Tho' usually black, it is sometimes found spotted, and sometimes quite white. This animal is about five inches and three quarters long, and the tail about an inch.

As these creatures seldom appear above ground, they have not many enemies, and readily evade the pursuit of those animals that are stronger and swifter than themselves. Inundation is the most fatal to them, and whenever such a calamity happens, numbers of them are seen attempting to save themselves by swimming, and using every effort to reach the higher grounds. In these cases the greatest part of them perish, together with their young which remain in the holes behind. If these accidents did not sometimes happen, and great diligence used by Mole-catchers, they would, from their great fecundity, become extremely troublesome and injurious: as it is, indeed, they are considered by the farmers as their greatest pest.

The Mole breeds in the spring, and brings forth four or five young at a time. Its nest is made of moss under the largest hillocks, a little above the surface of the ground; and among the other mole-hills, it is easy to distinguish that in
which

which the female has brought forth her young. In order to form this retreat, the female begins by making a spacious apartment, which, at proper distances, is supported within by partitions to prevent the roof from falling. Round this she beats the earth very firm, in order to keep out the rain: the hillock in which this apartment is made, being raised above ground, the apartment itself is consequently above the level of the plain, and therefore less subject to slight inundations. The habitation being finished, she makes a nest for her young, of moss and dry leaves, where they lie secure from wet and danger.

The Mole does great damage in gardens and meadows, by throwing up the soil, and loosening the roots of plants: it is most active before rain, and in winter before a thaw, the worm being then in motion; but in dry weather this animal seldom forms any hillocks, as it then penetrates deeper after its prey, which at such seasons retires far into the ground. The Mole shews great dexterity in skinning a worm, which it always does before it eats it, ingeniously stripping off the skin from one end to the other. As the skin of the Mole is extremely soft and beautiful, it is remarkable that it has not been turned to advantage. Agricola informs us, that he saw hats made from it, which were the finest and most beautiful that could be imagined. It is remarkable, though we are assured it is strictly true, that these animals are not to be found in Ireland, though they exist in several other countries besides England, particularly, Siberia, North America, &c.

N. B. *The inhabitants of Croydon and its vicinity are respectfully informed they may be supplied with this popular Work by Mr. Harding, or Mr. West, Booksellers at Croydon. But they are requested to be particular in enquiring for it by the right title, viz.—GRANGER'S New WONDERFUL MUSEUM—a work abounding with rare subjects of an extraordinary nature.*

Curious MARRIAGE CEREMONY in France.

IT is customary in France, when a couple have lived together in a state of wedlock for precisely half a century, that they go to church attended by all their descendants, and publicly renew their marriage vows. This custom was complied with in 1788 at Versailles, by Michael le Moine of that city, and Jane Gertrude Seulain, who renewed their marriage in the parish church of our lady at Versailles. The ages of the husband and wife put together amounted to 153 years: the former being 79 years old, and the latter 74. They were attended by seven of their children, and 24 grand-children. What is further remarkable in this case is, that the father and mother of the husband renewed their marriage vows in the same manner at the same church in May 1756, after having lived full fifty years in wedlock. When the latter couple performed this ceremony, they were attended by nine children, and 43 grand-children.

Bedford-square.

MANTUA.

A Remarkable PUBLICAN and Public-House, near London.

THE publican and his wife who keep the New Inn in Edgeware road, near Hyde Park, are both English people, and have lived there about fourteen years; yet both speak French as fluently as English, having been many years in France with the Orleans family before the revolution. Some of their children were born in France, yet know nothing of the French language. The man speaks Italian, German, and other languages fluently. They are both very civil, friendly, well-behaved people, keep their house in good order, and shut it up regularly every night at eleven o'clock. They sell good beer, spirits, and wine. It is

is a convenient good house, where is heard no brawling noise or foul language from them, which renders it very pleasant to decent quiet people who have occasion to use such a house. I wish all houses of this kind were as well regulated, and kept by such orderly well-behaved people.

G. W. Senior.

A Wonderful and affecting Account of the Preservation of Three Persons buried about five Weeks in Snow sixty feet deep; by Dr. Joseph Bruni, Professor of Philosophy at Turin. From the Philosophical Transactions.

A SMALL cluster of houses at a place called Bergemoletto near Demonte in the upper valley of Stura, was on the 19th of March 1755, entirely overwhelmed by two vast bodies of snow that tumbled down from a neighbouring mountain. All the inhabitants were then within doors, except one Joseph Rochia, and his son, a lad of 15, who were on the roof of their house clearing away the snow which had fallen for three days incessantly. A priest going by to mass advised them to come down, having just before observed a body of snow tumbling from the mountain towards them. The man descended with great precipitation, and fled with his son, he knew not whither; but scarce had he gone 30 or 40 steps, before his son, who followed him, fell down; on which looking back, he saw his own and his neighbours houses, in which were 22 persons in all, covered with a high mountain of snow. He lifted up his son, and reflecting that his wife, his sister, two children, and all his effects were thus buried, he fainted away; but soon reviving, got safe to a friend's house at some distance.

Five days after, Joseph being perfectly recovered, got upon the snow, with his son, and two of his wife's brothers, to try if he could find the exact place where his house

house stood ; but after many openings made in the snow, they could not discover it. The month of April proving hot, and the snow beginning to soften, he again used his utmost endeavours to recover his effects, and to bury, as he thought, the remains of his family. He made new openings, and threw in earth to melt the snow, which on the 24th of April was greatly diminished. He broke through ice six English feet thick, with iron bars, thrust down a long pole, and touched the ground, but evening coming on, he desisted.

His wife's brother, who lived at Demonte, dreamed that night, that his sister was still alive, and begged him to help her ; the man affected by his dream, rose early in the morning, and went to Bergemoletto, where Joseph was ; and after resting himself a little, went with him to work upon the snow, where they made another opening, which led them to the house they searched for : but finding no dead bodies in its ruins, they sought for the stable, which was about 240 English feet distant, which having found, they heard a cry of " Help, my dear brother." Being greatly surprised as well as encouraged by these words, they laboured with all diligence till they had made a large opening, through which the brother who had the dream, immediately went down, where the sister with an agonizing and feeble voice told him, " I have always trusted in God and you, that you would not forsake me." The other brother and the husband then went down, and found still alive the wife about 45, the sister about 35, and a daughter about thirteen years old. These they raised on their shoulders to men above, who pulled them up as if from the grave, and carried them to a neighbouring house : they were unable to walk, and so wasted, that they appeared like mere skeletons. They were immediately put to bed, and gruel of rye-flour and a little butter was given to recover them. Some days

after the intendant came to see them, and found the wife still unable to rise from bed or use her feet, from the intense cold she had endured, and the uneasy posture she had been in. The sister, whose legs had been bathed with hot wine, could walk with some difficulty; and the daughter needed no further remedies.

On the intendant's interrogating the women, they told him, that on the morning of the 19th of March they were in the stable with a boy of six years old, and a girl of about thirteen: in the same stable were six goats, one of which having brought forth two dead kids the night before, they went to carry her a small vessel of rye-flour gruel; there were also an ass and five or six fowls. They were sheltering themselves in a warm corner of the stable, till the church bell should ring, intending to attend the service. The wife related, that wanting to go out of the stable to kindle a fire in the house of her husband, who was clearing away the snow from the top of it, she perceived a mass of snow breaking down towards the east, upon which she went back into the stable, shut the door, and told her sister of it. In less than three minutes they heard the roof break over their heads, and also part of the ceiling. The sister advised to get into the rack and manger, which they did. The ass was tied to the manger, but got loose by kicking and struggling, and threw down the little vessel, which they found, and afterwards used to hold the melted snow, which served them for drink.

Very fortunately the manger was under the main prop of the stable, and so resisted the weight of the snow. Their first care was to know what they had to eat. The sister said she had fifteen chestnuts in her pocket; the children said they had breakfasted, and should want no more that day. They remembered there were thirty-six or forty cakes in a place near the stable, and endeavoured to get at them, but were
not

not able for the snow. They called often for help, but were heard by none. The sister gave two chefnuts to the wife, and eat two herself, and they drank some snow water. The ass was restless, and the goats kept bleating for some days; after which they heard no more of them. Two of the goats, however, being left alive, and near the manger, they felt them, and found that one of them was big, and would kid, as they recollected, about the middle of April; the other gave milk, wherewith they preserved their lives. During all the time they saw not one ray of light, yet for about 20 days they had some notice of night and day from the crowing of the fowls, till they died.

The second day, being very hungry, they eat all the chefnuts, and drank what milk the goat yielded, being very near two pounds a day at first, but it soon decreased. The third day they attempted again, but in vain, to get at the cakes; so resolved to take all possible care to feed the goats; for just above the manger was a hay-loft, whence through a hole the sister pulled down hay into the rack, and gave it to the goats as long as she could reach it, and then, when it was beyond her reach, the goats climbed upon her shoulders, and reached it themselves.

On the sixth day the boy sickened, and six days after desired his mother, who all this time had held him in her lap, to lay him at his length in the manger. She did so, and taking him by the hand, felt it was very cold; she then put her hand to his mouth, and finding that cold likewise, she gave him a little milk; the boy then cried, "O my father is in the snow! O father, father!" and then expired. In the mean while the goats milk diminished daily, and the fowls soon after dying, they could no longer distinguish night from day; but according to their reckoning, the time was near when the other goat should kid, which at length they knew was come, by its cries: the sister

helped it, and they killed the kid, to save the milk for their own subsistence; so they found that the middle of April was come. Whenever they called this goat, it would come and lick their faces and hands, and gave them every day two pounds of milk, on which account they still bear the poor creature a great affection.

They said, that during all this time, hunger gave them but little uneasiness, except for the first five or six days; and their greatest pain was from the extreme coldness of the melted snow water, which fell on them, from the stench of the dead as, goats, fowls, &c. and from lice; but more than all from the very uneasy posture they were confined to the manger in which they sat squatting against the wall, being no more than three feet four inches broad.

After the first two or three days they had no evacuation by stool. The melted snow-water and milk were discharged by urine. The mother said she had never slept, but the sister and daughter declared they had slept as usual.

Attested before the intendant by the said woman the 16th of May, 1755.

An Account of some remarkable Particulars that happened to a Lady after having had the confluent kind of the Small-Pox.

IN the course of this disease, during which the lady was attended by the late Sir Hans Sloane, several threatening symptoms appeared, which, however, were at length overcome; and the patient, being thought out of danger, took several doses of purgative medicines as are usually administered in the decline of the disease, without any bad consequence.

But in the evening of the day on which she had taken the last dose that was intended to be given her on that occasion, she was suddenly seized with pains and convulsions in the bowels; the pain and other symptoms became gradually less

less violent, as the force of the medicine abated, and by such remedies as were thought best adapted to the case, they seemed at length to be intirely subdued.

They were, however, subdued only in appearance; for at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the next day they returned with great violence, and continued some hours; when they went off, they left the muscles of the lower jaw so much relaxed, that it fell down, and the chin was supported on the breast. The strength of the patient was so much exhausted during this paroxysm, that she lay near two hours with no other sign of life than a very feeble respiration, which was often so difficult to be discerned, that those about her concluded she was dead.

From this time the fits returned periodically every day, at about the same hour. At first they seemed to affect her nearly to the same degree; but at length all the symptoms were aggravated, the convulsions became more general, and her arms were sometimes convulsed alternately; it also frequently happened, that the arm which was last convulsed remained extended and inflexible for some hours after the struggles were over. Her neck was often twisted with such violence, that the face looked directly backwards, and the back part of the head was over the breast; the muscles of the countenance were also so contracted and writhed by the spasms, that the features were totally changed, and it was impossible to find any resemblance of her natural aspect by which she could be know. Her feet were not less distorted than her head, for they were twisted almost to dislocation at the instep, so that she could not walk but upon her ancles.

To remove or mitigate these deplorable symptoms, many remedies were tried, and, among others, the cold bath; but either by the natural effect of the bath, or by some mismanagement of the bathing, the unhappy patient first became blind, and soon afterwards deaf and dumb. It is not easy

to conceive what could increase the misery of deafness, dumbness, blindness, and frequent paroxysms of excruciating pain; yet a very considerable aggravation was added; for the loss of her sight, her hearing, and her speech, was followed by such a stricture of the muscles of her throat that she could not swallow any kind of aliment, either solid or liquid. It might reasonably be supposed that this circumstance, though it added to the degree of her misery, would have shortened its duration; yet in this condition she continued near three quarters of a year, and during that time was supported, in a very uncommon manner, by chewing her food only, which having turned often, and kept long in her mouth, she was obliged to spit out. Liquors were likewise gargled about in her mouth for some time, and then returned in the same manner, no part of them having passed the throat by an act of deglutition, so that whatever was conveyed into the stomach, either of the juices of the solid food, or of liquids, was either gradually imbibed by the sponginess of the parts which they moistened, or trickled down in a very small quantity along the sides of the vessels.

But there were other peculiarities in the case of this lady, yet more extraordinary. During the privation of her *sight* and *hearing*, her *touch* and her *smell* became so exquisite, that she could distinguish the different colours of silk and flowers, and was sensible when any stranger was in the room with her.

After she became blind, and deaf, and dumb, it was not easy to contrive any method by which a question could be asked her, and an answer received. This however was at last effected, by talking with the fingers, at which she was uncommonly ready. But those who conversed with her in this manner, were obliged to express themselves, by touching her hand and fingers instead of their own.

A lady who was nearly related to her, having an apron
on,

on, that was embroidered with silk of different colours, asked her, in the manner which has just been described, if she could tell what colour it was? and after applying her fingers attentively to the figures of the embroidery, she replied, that it was red, and blue, and green, which was true, but whether there were any other colours in the apron, the writer of this account does not remember. The same lady having a pink-coloured ribbon on her head, and being willing still farther to satisfy her curiosity and her doubts, asked what colour that was? her cousin, after feeling some time, answered, that it was pink colour; this answer was yet more astonishing, because it shewed not only a power of distinguishing different colours, but different kinds of the same colour; the ribbon was not only discovered to be red; but the red was discovered to be of the pale kind, called a pink.

This unhappy lady, conscious of her own uncommon infirmities, was extremely unwilling to be seen by strangers, and therefore generally retired to her chamber, where none but those of the family were likely to come. The same relation, who had by the experiment of the apron and ribbon, discovered the exquisite sensibility of her *touch*, was soon after convinced by an accident, that her power of *smelling* was acute and refined in the same astonishing degree.

Being one day visiting the family, she went up to her cousin's chamber, and after making herself known, she intreated her to go down, and sit with her among the rest of the family, assuring her, that there was no other person present; to this she at length consented, and went down to the parlour door; but the moment the door was opened, she turned back, and retired to her own chamber much displeased, alledging that there were strangers in the room, and that an attempt had been made to deceive her. It happened,

happened; indeed, that there were strangers in the room, but they had come in while the lady was above stairs: so that she did not know they were there. When she had satisfied her cousin of this particular, she was pacified; and being afterwards asked how she knew there were strangers in the room, she answered by the smell.

But though she could by this sense distinguish in general between persons with whom she was well acquainted, and strangers, yet she could not so easily distinguish one of her acquaintances from another without other assistance. She generally distinguished her friends by feeling their hands, and when they came in they used to present their hands to her, as a means of making themselves known; the make and warmth of the hand produced in general the differences that she distinguished, but sometimes she used to span the wrist and measure the fingers. A lady, with whom she was very well acquainted, coming in one very hot day, after having walked a mile, presented her hand, as usual; she felt it longer than ordinary, and seemed to doubt whose it was; but after spanning the wrist, and measuring the fingers, she said, "It is Mrs. M. but she is warmer to-day than ever I felt her before."

To amuse herself in the mournful and perpetual solitude and darkness to which her disorder had reduced her, she used to work much at her needle, and it is remarkable, that her needle-work was uncommonly neat and exact; among many other pieces of her work that are preserved in the family, is a pin-cushion, which can scarce be equalled. She used also sometimes to write, and her writing was yet more extraordinary than her needle-work; it was executed with the same regularity and exactness; the character was very pretty, the lines were all even, and the letters placed at equal distances from each other; but the most astonishing particular of all, with respect to her writing, is,
that

that she could by some means discover when a letter had by some mistake been omitted, and would place it over that part of the word where it should have been inserted, with a caret under it. It was her custom to sit up in bed at any hour of the night, either to write or to work, when her pain or any other cause kept her awake.

These circumstances were so very extraordinary, that it was long doubted whether she had not some faint remains both of hearing and sight, and many experiments were made to ascertain the matter; some of these experiments she accidentally discovered, and the discovery always threw her into violent convulsions. The thought of being suspected of insincerity, or supposed capable of acting so wicked a part as to feign infirmities that were not inflicted, was an addition to her misery which she could not bear, and which never failed to produce an agony of mind not less visible than those of her body. A clergyman, who found her one evening at work by a table with a candle upon it, put his hat between her eyes and the candle, in such a manner that it was impossible she could receive any benefit from the light of it, if she had not been blind. She continued still at her work with great tranquillity, till putting up her hand suddenly to rub her forehead, she struck it against the hat, and discovered what was doing; upon which she was thrown into violent convulsions, and was not without great difficulty recovered. The family were, by these experiments, and by several accidental circumstances, fully convinced that she was totally deaf and blind, particularly by sitting unconcerned at her work, during a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning, though she was then facing the window, and always used to be much terrified in such circumstances; but Sir Hans Sloane, her physician, being still doubtful of the truth of facts, which were scarce less than miraculous, he was permitted to satisfy himself by such experiments and

observations as he thought proper; the issue of which was, that he pronounced her to be absolutely deaf and blind.

She was at length sent to Bath, where she was in some measure relieved, her convulsions being less frequent, and her pains less acute; but she never recovered her speech, her sight, or her hearing, in the least degree.

Many of the letters, dated at Bath, in some of which there are instances of interlineations with a caret, the writer of this narrative hath seen, and they are now in the custody of the widow of one of her brothers, who, with many other persons, can support the facts here related, however wonderful, with such evidence as it would not only be injustice, but folly, to disbelieve.

Female Patriotism of MARGARET JOICE.

ABOUT the middle of the 14th century, Margaret Joice, of the kingdom of Ireland, being left a widow, in possession of an ample fortune, and without any children, expended almost the whole of it in having bridges built. In the county of Galway she caused to be erected 23 bridges of different dimensions, and finished with the great bridge thrown over the Corriba, which has its influence with the sea. This bridge is longer but not so broad as Essex bridge, and has stood the rapid discharge of that great body of water to the present time, which is nearly 500 years; and this she did as a patriot merely to serve her country. Her name is to this day revered, and emphatically called by the Irish, *Malread na Drehad*, or *Margaret of the Bridges*.

Bedford-Square.

MANTUA.

First mention of an ORGAN.

THE first mention of an organ which we find (in our northern histories at least) is in the annals of the year 757, when

when Constantine Cupronymus, Emperor of the East, sent to Pepin, King of France, among other rich presents, a musical machine, which the French writers describe to have been composed of pipes and large tubes of tin, and to have imitated the roaring of thunder, and sometimes the warbling of a flute.

A lady was so affected by hearing it played on for the first time, that she fell into a delirium, and could never afterwards be restored to the use of her senses.

Bedford-square.

MANTUA.

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*Singular Phenomena of the HUMAN BRAIN.*

SAMUEL Casterns, Fontanus, and Carpi, celebrated anatomists of the late century, mention a child born on the 24th of December 1729, which had no appearance of brain. The cavity of its cranium was filled with very clear water. Bartholin speaks of a child, being at Berg in 1639, which lived half an hour, and which had neither forehead nor brain, but in their place a mass of red and formless flesh.

Farwel, a surgeon, exhibited to the academy of sciences of Paris, a fœtus without brain, or spinal marrow, though otherwise well formed. It had been born at its full time, and given some signs of sentiment. This fact alone, which is not unique, says the historian of the academy, for 1713, demonstrates, either that the animal spirits are not necessary to the economy of the body, or that they may be engendered elsewhere than in the brain, or spinal marrow. The latter part of this observation appears better founded than the former, the existence of this sort of spirits supposed.

John Wolfius relates that on the 26th of May 1665, a woman of the burg of Schmitz, in Suabia, was brought to

bed of a headless child, of which the mouth was placed on the left shoulder, and one of the ears on the right. The body was brown, and had undulatory movements, being only a mass of boneless flesh. The vulgar were of opinion that it had been engendered by an incubus; and what is more extraordinary still, and notably proves the good credulity of our ancestors, this account of the matter was printed and published by order of the senate of Ulm.

In the beginning of the year 1760, says the *Journal d'Allemagne*, there was killed at the town of Padua, near the monastery of Santa-Justina, an ox, the brain of which was as hard as marble. It must be acknowledged that this bull had seemed more stupid than others. In walking he had always hung down his head, shaking it as he went. It was determined to kill him, because he visibly walted away. All his other parts were found. As a curiosity, the brain is preserved in the monastery of Santa-Justina. This phenomenon was not the first of the kind that had been seen.

The following is a still more striking proof that, notwithstanding the extreme delicacy of this viscera, it is possible, in spite of its petrefaction, and even of insinuation of extraneous bodies, the animal functions may be continued.

In the electoral library of Königsberg, says Thomas Bartholin, in the year 1678, there was shewn a piece of iron, of the length and thickness of a finger, which had remained during fourteen years in the brain of a Prussian officer, named Erasmus de Reitzenstein, without occasioning him any considerable inconvenience. At the end of the period, it produced a suppuration, and came out with the pus. All these circumstances are related in a latin inscription, in verse, adjoined to the iron, and deposited by the officer in 1642, in the church of Saint Albert, whence, in 1665, it was transferred to the electoral library.

Who



Who would think that, as in the following very curious example, the abuse of spirituous liquors would force them to filtrate into the very substance of the brain?

In the month of October, 1769, there was brought into the military hospital of Nancy, a soldier who had been found dead in one of the prisons, and who was suspected of having been poisoned. Noel, a member the academy of of chirurgery, undertook to open the body, and the face being swollen, and the colour leaden, he began with the brain. When he had separated and removed the cranium, he found all the sinuses of the *dura-mater* extremely distended, and a large quantity of blood clotted on the surface of the brain. He thought himself authorized by these indications, to conclude that the subject had died of an apoplexy, or by violent blows received on the head: but what engaged his surprise was this, that while he was detaching the medullary substance of the brain, he smelt a strong odour of spirit of wine, which, at the first, he suspected to proceed from his attendants. On their assuring him that they had not drank of this liquor, he remained in a state of doubt, till the arrival of a soldier, who informed him that the cause of his comrade's death was his having drank a bottle of brandy, to console himself for that he could not leave his prison. Curious to learn to what degree the spirituous liquor might have penetrated the medullary substance of the brain, which continued to yield a strong scent, Noel applied the flame of a candle to the mass of the brain, when the latter caught fire, and produced white, pale, and violet-coloured flames, nearly similar to those produced by spirit of wine, and other inflammable liquors.

The same anatomist made experiments on various animals, which he killed with the same drink; but the opening of their brain exhibited no similar phenomenon: whence it seems just to conclude that it can be occasioned only by the habitual use and excessive abuse of spirituous liquors.

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*The Life and Wonderful Exploits of ALEXANDER the GREAT,  
King of Macedon, &c.*

ALEXANDER was born at Pella in Macedonia the first year of the CVIth Olympiad.

The very day he came into the world the celebrated temple of Diana in Ephesus was burnt, which was one of the seven wonders of world. It had been built in the name, and at the expence of all Asia minor. A great number of years were employed in building this magnificent temple.

When Alexander was fifteen years of age, he was delivered to the tuition of Aristotle. He discovered very early a mighty spirit, and symptoms of that vast and immoderate ambition, which was afterwards to make him the scourge of mankind, and the pest of the world. One day, when it was told him that Philip had gained a battle, instead of rejoicing, he looked much chagrined; and said, that "if his father went on at this rate, there would be nothing left for him to do." Upon Philip's shewing some little wonder that Alexander did not engage in the Olympic games, "Give me," said the youth, "kings for my antagonists, and I will present myself at once." The taming and managing of the famous Bucephalus is always mentioned among the exploits of his early age. This was a remarkable horse brought from Thessaly, and purchased at a very great price (about 1,900l. sterling); but upon trial he was found so fiery and vicious, that neither Philip nor any of his courtiers could mount or manage him. In short, he was upon the point of being sent back as an intractable and useless beast, when Alexander, expressing his grief, that so noble a creature should be rejected and set at nought, merely because nobody had the dexterity to manage him, was at length permitted to try what he could do. Now Alexander had perceived, that the frolicsome spirit and  
wildness

wildness of Bucephalus proceeded solely from the fright which the animal had taken at his own shadow; whereupon, turning his head directly to the sun, and gently approaching him with address and skill, he threw himself at length upon him, and though Philip at first was extremely distressed and alarmed for his son, yet when he saw him safe, and perfectly master of his steed, he received him with tears of joy, saying, "O, my son, thou must seek elsewhere a kingdom, for Macedonia cannot contain thee." One more instance of this very high spirit shall suffice. When Philip had repudiated Olympias for infidelity to his bed, the young prince felt a most lively resentment on the occasion; yet, being invited by his father to the nuptials with his new wife, he did not refuse to go. In the midst of the entertainment, Attalus, a favourite of Philip, had the imprudence to say, that the Macedonians must implore the gods to grant the king a lawful successor. "What, you scoundrel! do you then take me for a bastard?" says Alexander; and threw a cup that instant at his head. Philip, intoxicated with wine, and believing his son to be the author of the quarrel, rushed violently towards him with his sword; but, slipping with his foot, fell prostrate upon the floor. Upon which, said Alexander insulting, "See Macedonians, what a general you have for the conquest of Asia, who cannot take a single step without falling;" for Philip had just before been named for this expedition in a common assembly of the Greeks, and was preparing for it, when he was murdered at a feast by Pausanias.

Alexander, now twenty years of age, succeeded his father as king of Macedon: he was also chosen, in room of his father, generalissimo, in the projected expedition against the Persians; but the Greeks, agreeably to their usual fickleness, deserted from him, taking the advantage of his absence in Thrace and Illyricum, where he began his military

litary enterprises. He hastened immediately to Greece, when the Athenians and other states returned to him at once; but, the Thebans standing out, he directed his arms against them, slew a prodigious number of them, and destroyed their city; sparing nothing but the descendants and the house of Pindar, out of respect to the memory of that poet. This happened in the second year of the 3d Olympiad. It was about this time that he went to consult the oracle at Delphi; when the priests pretending that it was not on some account lawful for her to enter the temple then, he being impatient, hauled her along, and occasioned her to cry out, "Ah my son, there is no resisting you:" upon which Alexander seizing the words as ominous, replied, "I desire nothing farther: this oracle suffices." It was also probable at this time that the remarkable interview passed between our hero and Diogenes the cynic. Alexander had the curiosity to visit this philosopher in his tub, and complimented him with asking, "if he could do any thing to serve him?" "Nothing," said the brute, "but to stand from betwixt me and the sun." The attendants were expecting what resentment would be shewn to this savage behaviour; when Alexander surprized them by saying, "Positively, if I was not Alexander, I would be Diogenes."

Having settled the affairs of Greece, and left Antipater as his viceroy in Macedonia, he passed the Hellespont, in the third year of his reign, with an army of no more than 30,000 foot, and 4,500 horse; and with these forces, he overturned the Persian empire. His first battle was at the Granicus, a river of Phrygia, in which the Persians were routed. His second was at Issus, a city of Cilicia, where he was also victorious in an eminent degree: for the camp of Darius, with his mother, wife, and children, fell into his hands; and the humane and generous treatment which he

he shewed them, is justly reckoned the noblest and most amiable passage of his life.

At the end of this memorable battle, he invited the graces of his court, and his chief officers, to a feast, at which he himself was present, notwithstanding he had been wounded. But they were no sooner set down at table, than they heard, from a neighbouring tent, a great noise, intermixed with groans, which frightened all the company; insomuch that the soldiers, who were upon guard before the king's tent, ran to their arms, being afraid of an insurrection. But it was found, that the persons who made this clamour were the mother and wife of Darius, and the rest of the captive ladies, who supposing that prince dead, bewailed his loss, according to the custom of the Barbarians, with dreadful cries and howlings. An eunuch, who had seen Darius's cloak in the hands of a soldier, imagining he had killed him, and afterwards stripped him of that garment, had carried them that false account.

Alexander being told the reason of this false alarm, could not refrain from tears, when he considered the sad calamity of Darius, and the tender disposition of those princesses, whom his misfortunes only affected. He thereupon sent Leonatus, one of his chief courtiers, to assure them, that the man whose death they bewailed was alive. Leonatus, taking some soldiers with him, came to the tent of the princesses, and sent word, that he was come to pay them a visit in the king's name. The persons, who were at the entrance of the tent, seeing a band of armed men, imagined that their mistresses were undone; and accordingly ran into the tent, crying aloud, that their last hour was come, and that soldiers were dispatched to murder them; so that these princesses, being seized with the utmost distraction, did not make the least answer, but waited in deep silence for the orders of the conqueror. At last, Leo-

natus having staid a long time, and seeing no one appear, left his soldiers at the door, and came into the tent: but their terror was increased when they saw a man enter among them without being introduced. They thereupon threw themselves at his feet, and intreated, that "before he put them to death they might be allowed to bury Darius after the manner of their country; and that when they had paid this last duty to their king, they should die contented." Leonatus answered, "That Darius was living; and that so far from giving them any offence, they should be treated as queens, and live in their former splendour." Syfigambis, Darius's mother, hearing this, began to recover her spirits, and permitted Leonatus to give her his hand, to raise her from the ground.

The next day Alexander, after visiting the wounded, caused the last honours to be paid to the dead, in presence of the whole army, drawn up in the most splendid order of battle. He treated the Persians of distinction in the same manner.

After Alexander had performed these several duties, truly worthy a great monarch, he sent a message to the queens to inform them that he was coming to pay them a visit; and accordingly, commanding all his train to withdraw, he entered the tent, accompanied only by Hephæstion. He was his favourite, and as they had been brought up together, the king revealed his secrets to him, and nobody else dared to speak so freely to him; but even Hephæstion made so cautious and discreet a use of that liberty, that he seemed to take it, not so much out of inclination, as from a desire to obey the king, who would have it so. They were of the same age, but Hephæstion was taller, so that the queens took him at first for the king, and paid him their respects as such: but some captive eunuchs shewing them Alexander, Syfigambis fell prostrate before him, and begged

begged his pardon; declaring, that as she had never seen him, she hoped that consideration would plead her apology. The king, raising her from the ground, "Dear mother," says he, "you are not mistaken, for he also is an Alexander." A fine expression, which does honour to both! Had Alexander always thought and acted in this manner, he would have justly merited the title of Great; but fortune had not yet corrupted his soul. He bore her at first with moderation and wisdom; but at last she overpowered him, and he became unable to resist her.

Syfigambis, strongly affected with these testimonies of goodness and humanity, could not forbear testifying her gratitude upon that account. "Great prince," said she to him, "what words shall I find to express my thanks, in such a manner as may answer your generosity! You call me your mother, and honour me still with the title of queen, whereas I confess myself your captive. I know what I have been, and what I now am. I know the whole extent of my past grandeur, and find I can support all the weight of my present ill fortune. But it will be glorious for you, as you now have an absolute power over us, to make us feel it by your clemency only, and not by ill treatment."

The king, after comforting the princesses, took Darius's son in his arms. This little child, without discovering the least terror, embraced Alexander, who, being affected with his confidence, and turning about to Hephæstion, said to him; "O that Darius had had some portion of this tender disposition."

While he was in this country, he caught a violent fever by bathing when hot, in the cold waters of the river Cydnus; and this fever was made more violent, from his impatience at being detained by it. The army was under the utmost consternation, and no physician durst undertake the cure. At length one Philip of Acarnan desired time to

prepare a potion, which he was sure would cure him ; and while this potion was preparing, Alexander received a letter from his most intimate confident Parmenio, informing him, that this Acarnan was a traitor, and employed by Darius, to poison him at the price of a thousand talents and his sister in marriage. What a situation for a sick prince ! The same greatness of soul, however, which accompanied him upon all occasions, did not forsake him here. He did not seem to his physician under any apprehensions ; but, after receiving the cup into his hands, delivered the letter to Acarnan, and with eyes fixed upon him, drank it off. The medicine at first acted so powerfully, as to deprive him of his senses, and then without doubt all concluded him poisoned : however, he soon came round, and was restored to his army safe and sound.

Passing through Cilicia, he marched forwards to Phœnicia, which all surrendered to him, except Tyre ; and it cost him a siege of seven months to reduce this city, which he was fully resolved to do, and accomplished. The vexation of Alexander at being unseasonably detained by this obstinacy of the Tyrians, occasioned a mighty destruction and carnage ; and the cruelty he exercised here is quite inexcusable. He afterwards laid siege to Gaza, upon his arrival at which place he found it provided with a strong garrison, commanded by Betis, one of Darius's eunuchs. This governor, who was a brave man, and very faithful to his sovereign, defended it with great vigour against Alexander. As this was the only inlet or pass into Egypt, it was absolutely necessary for him to conquer it, and therefore he was obliged to besiege it. But although every art of war was employed, he was however forced to lie two months before it. Exasperated at its holding out so long, and his receiving two wounds, he was resolved to treat the governor, the inhabitants, and soldiers, with a barbarity absolutely



absolutely inexcusable; for he cut ten thousand men to pieces, and sold all the rest, with their wives and children, for slaves. When Betis, who had been taken prisoner in the last assault, was brought before him, Alexander, instead of using him kindly, as his valour and fidelity justly merited, this young monarch, who otherwise esteemed bravery even in an enemy, fired on that occasion with an insolent joy, spoke thus to him: "Betis, thou shalt not die the death thou desiredst. Prepare therefore to suffer all those torments which revenge can invent." Betis, looking upon the king with not only a firm, but a haughty air, did not make the least reply to his menaces; upon which the king, more enraged than before at his disdainful silence: "Observe," said he, "I beseech you, that dumb arrogance. Has he bended the knee? has he spoke but even so much as one submissive word? But I will conquer this obstinate silence, and will force groans from him, if I can draw nothing else." At last, Alexander's anger rose to fury; his conduct now beginning to change with his fortune: upon which he ordered a hole to be made through his heels, when a rope being put through them, and this being tied to a chariot, he ordered his soldiers to drag Betis round the city till he died. He boasted his having imitated, on this occasion, Achilles, from whom he was descended, who, as Homer relates, caused the dead body of Hector to be dragged, in the same manner, round the walls of Troy; as if a man ought ever to pride himself for having imitated so ill an example. Both were very barbarous, but Alexander was much more so, in causing Betis to be dragged alive; and for no other reason, but because he had served his sovereign with bravery and fidelity, by defending a city with which he had intrusted him; a fidelity, that ought to have been admired, and even rewarded, by an enemy, rather than punished in so cruel a manner.

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He sent the greatest part of the plunder he found in Gaza, to Olympias, to Cleopatra his sister, and to his friends. He also presented Leonidas, his preceptor, with five hundred quintals, (or hundred weight) of frankincense, and an hundred quintals of myrrh; calling to mind a caution Leonidas had given him when but a child, and which seemed, even at that time, to presage the conquests this monarch had lately achieved. . . For Leonidas, observing Alexander take up whole handfuls of incense at a sacrifice, and throw it into the fire, said to him: "Alexander, when you shall have conquered the country which produces these spices, you then may be as profuse of incense as you please; but, till that day comes, be sparing of what you have." The monarch therefore wrote to Leonidas as follows: "I send you a large quantity of incense and myrrh, in order that you may no longer be so reserved and sparing in your sacrifices to the gods."

He then went to Jerusalem, where he was received by the high priest; and, making many presents to the Jews, sacrificed in their temple. He told Jadduas, for that was the priest's name, that he had seen in Macedonia a god, in appearance exactly resembling him, who had exhorted him to this expedition against the Persians, and given him the firmest assurance of success. Afterwards, entering Egypt, which he completely subdued, he went to the oracle of Jupiter Ammon, and upon his return built the city of Alexandria. It was now that he took it into his head to assume divinity, and to pretend himself the son of the said Jupiter Ammon, for which his mother Olympias would sometimes rally him not unpleasantly: "Pray," she would say, "cease to be called the son of Jupiter, you will certainly embroil me in quarrels with Juno." Policy, however, was at the bottom of this: it was impossible that any such belief should be really rooted in his breast; but he found  
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by experience that this opinion inclined the barbarous nations to submit to him ; and therefore he was content to pass for a god, and to admit (as he did) of divine adoration.

His object now was to overtake and attack Darius in another battle ; and although Darius had twice sued in vain for peace, and imagined that he had nothing to trust to but his arms ; nevertheless, being overcome by the advantageous circumstances which had been told him concerning Alexander's tenderness and humility towards his family, he dispatched ten of his chief relations, who were to offer him fresh conditions of peace more advantageous than the former ; and to thank him for the kind treatment he had given his family. Darius had, in the former proposals, given him up all the provinces as far as the river Halys ; but now he added the several territories situate between the Hellespont and the Euphrates, that is, all he already possessed. Alexander made the following answer :  
“ Tell your sovereign, that thanks, between persons who make war against each other, are superfluous ; and that, in case I have behaved with clemency towards his family, it was for my own sake, and not for his ; in consequence of my own inclination, and not to please him. To insult the unhappy, is a thing to me unknown. I do not attack either prisoners or women, and turn my rage against such only as are armed for the fight. Did Darius sue for a peace in a sincere view, I then would debate on what is to be done ; but since he still continues, by letters and by money, to spirit up my soldiers to betray me, and my friends to murder me, I therefore am determined to pursue him with the utmost vigour ; and that not as an enemy, but a poisoner and an assassin. It indeed becomes him, to offer to yield up to me what I am already possessed of ! Would he be satisfied with ranking himself as second  
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to me, without pretending to be my equal, I possibly might then hear him. Tell him, that the world will not permit two suns, nor two sovereigns. Let him therefore chuse, either to surrender to-day, or fight me to-morrow, and not to flatter himself with the hopes of obtaining better success than he has hitherto had." Darius's proposals are certainly not reasonable; but then, is Alexander's answer much more so? In the former we behold a prince, who is not yet sensible of his own weakness, or, at least, who cannot prevail with himself to own it; and in the latter, we see a monarch quite intoxicated with his good fortune, and carrying his pride to such an excess of folly, as is not to be paralleled: *The world will not permit two suns, nor two sovereigns.* If this be greatness, and not pride, I do not know what can ever deserve the latter name. The ambassadors having leave to depart, returned back, and told Darius that he must now prepare for battle.

This remarkable battle was fought with uncommon vigor on both sides, at Arbela, when victory, granting every thing to Alexander, put an end to the Persian empire. The Persians, it is said, lost three hundred thousand men besides those who were taken prisoners. That of Alexander was very inconsiderable, not above twelve hundred men, most of whom were horse. Darius had offered his daughter in marriage, and part of his dominions to Alexander, and Parmenio advised him to accept the terms: "I would," says he, "if I was Alexander;"—"and so would I," replied the conqueror, "if I was Parmenio." The same Parmenio, counselling the prince to take advantage of the night in attacking Darius, "No," said Alexander, "I would not steal a victory." Darius owed his escape from Arbela to the swiftness of his horse, and while he was collecting forces to renew the war, was insidiously slain by Bassus, governor of the Bactriana. Alexander wept at the fate

fate of Darius; and afterwards procuring Pessus to be given up to him, punished the inhuman according to his deserts.

Alexander, after taking a great many cities in Bactriana, builds one near the river Iaxartes, which he calls by his own name. The Scythians, alarmed at the building of this city, as it would be a check upon them, send ambassadors to the king, who rode through the camp, desiring to speak with the king. Alexander having sent for them into his tent, desired them to sit down. They gazed attentively upon him a long time, without speaking a single word, being very probably surprized (as they formed a judgment of men from their air and stature) to find that his did not answer the high idea they entertained of him from his fame. The oldest of the ambassadors made the following long and curious speech :

“ Had the gods given thee a body proportionable to thy ambition, the whole universe would have been too little for thee. With one hand thou wouldest touch the east, and with the other the west ; and, not satisfied with this, thou wouldest follow the sun, and know where he hides himself. Such as thou art, thou yet aspirest after what it will be impossible for thee to attain. Thou crogest over from Europe into Asia ; and when thou shalt have subdued all the race of men, thou then wilt make war against rivers, forests, and wild beasts. Dost thou not know, that tall trees are many years a growing, but may be tore up in an hour’s time ; that the lion serves sometimes for food to the smallest birds ; that iron, though so very hard, is consumed by rust ; in a word, that there is nothing so strong which may not be destroyed by the weakest thing ?

“ What have we to do with thee ? We never set foot in thy country. May not those who inhabit woods, be allowed to live without knowing who thou art, and whence thou comest ? We will neither command over, or submit

to any man. And that thou mayest be sensible what kind of people the Scythians are, know, that we received from heaven, as a rich present, a yoke of oxen, a plough-share, a dart, a javelin, and a cup. These we make use of both with our friends and against our enemies. To our friends we give corn, which we procure by the labour of our oxen; with them we offer wine to the gods in our cup; and with regard to our enemies, we combat them at a distance with our arrows, and near at hand with our javelins. It is with these we formerly conquered the most warlike nations, subdued the most powerful kings, laid waste all Asia, and opened ourselves a way into the heart of Egypt.

“ But thou, who boastest thy coming to extirpate robbers, thou thyself art the greatest robber upon earth. Thou hast plundered all nations thou overcamest. Thou hast possessed thyself of Lydia, invaded Syria, Persia, and Bactriana; thou art forming a design to march as far as India, and thou now comest hither to seize upon our herds of cattle. The great possessions thou hast only make thee covet more eagerly what thou hast not. Dost thou not see how long the Bactrians have checked thy progress? Whilst thou art subduing these, the Sogdians revolt, and victory is to thee only the occasion of war.

“ Pass but the Iaxarthes, and thou wilt behold the great extent of our plains. It will be in vain for thee to pursue the Scythians; and I defy thee ever to overtake them. Our poverty will be more active than thy army, laden with the spoils of so many nations; and, when thou shalt fancy us at a great distance, thou wilt see us rush suddenly on thy camp; for we pursue, and fly from our enemies, with equal speed. I am informed that the Greeks speak jestingly of the Scythian solitudes, and that they are even become a proverb; but we are fonder of our desarts, than of thy great cities and fruitful plains. Let me observe to thee,

that fortune is slippery; hold her fast therefore, for fear she should escape thee. Put a curb to thy felicity, if thou desirest to continue in possession of it.

“ If thou art a god, thou oughtest to do good to mortals, and not deprive them of their possessions: if thou art a mere man, reflect always on what thou art. They whom thou shalt not molest, will be thy true friends; the strongest friendships being contracted between equals; and they are esteemed equals, who have not tried their strength against each other: But don't imagine that those whom thou conquerest, can love thee; for there is no such thing as friendship between a master and his slave, and a forced peace is soon followed by a war.

“ To conclude, do not fancy that the Scythians will take an oath in their concluding an alliance. The only oath among them, is to keep their word without swearing. Such cautions as these do indeed become Greeks, who sign their treaties, and call upon the gods to witness them; but, with regard to us, our religion consists in being sincere, and in keeping the promises we have made. That man, who is not ashamed to break his word with men, is not ashamed of deceiving the gods; and of what use could friends be to thee whom thou couldest not trust? Consider that we will guard both Europe and Asia for thee. We extend as far as Thrace, and are told that this country is contiguous to Macedonia. The river Iaxartes only, divides us from Bactriana. Thus we are thy neighbours, on both sides. Consider therefore, whether thou wilt have us for friends, or enemies.”

The Barbarian spoke thus: To whom the king made but a very short answer; “ That he would take advantage both of his own good fortune, and of their counsel; of his good fortune; by still continuing to rely upon it; and of their counsel, by not attempting any thing rashly.” Having dismissed

missed the ambassadors, he gained a signal victory over the Scythians. He checked and punished the insurrection of the Sogdians, and took the city of Petra, which was thought impregnable. Alexander after taking a view of this place, was a long time in suspense whether he should besiege it; but, as it was his character to aim at the marvellous in all things, and to attempt impossibilities, he resolved to try if he could not overcome, on this occasion, nature itself, which seemed to have fortified this rock in such a manner as had rendered it absolutely impregnable. However, before he formed the siege, he summoned those Barbarians, but in mild terms, to submit to him. Arimazes their commander received this offer in a very haughty manner; and, after using several insulting expressions, asked "whether Alexander, who was able to do all things, could fly also; and whether nature had, on a sudden, given him wings."

Alexander was highly exasperated at this answer. He therefore gave orders for selecting, from among the mountaineers who were in his army, three hundred of the most active and dextrous. These being brought to him, he addressed them thus: "It was in your company, brave young men, that I stormed such places as were thought impregnable; that I made my way over mountains covered with eternal snows; crossed rivers, and broke through the passes of Cilicia. This rock, which you see, has but one outlet, which alone is defended by the Barbarians, who neglect every other part. There is no watch or centinel, except on that side which faces our camp. If you search very narrowly, you certainly will meet with some path that leads to the top of the rock. Nothing has been made so inaccessible by nature, as not to be surmounted by valour; and it was only by our attempting, what no one before had hopes of effecting, that we possessed ourselves of Asia. Get up to the summit, and when you shall have made yourselves



selves masters of it, set up a white standard there as a signal; and be assured, that I then will certainly disengage you from the enemy, and draw them upon myself by making a diversion." At the same time that the king gave out this order, he made them the most noble promises; but the pleasing him, was considered by them as the greatest of all rewards. Fired therefore with the noblest ardour, and fancying they had already reached the summit, they set out, after having provided themselves with wedges to drive into the stones, cramp-irons, and thick ropes.

The king went round the mountain with them, and commanded them to begin their march about 10 o'clock, at the second watch of the night, by that part which should seem to them of easiest access. They then took provisions for two days; and being armed with swords and javelins only, they began to ascend the mountain, walking some time on foot; afterwards, when it was necessary for them to climb, some forced their wedges into the stones which projected forwards, and by that means raised themselves; others thrust their cramp-irons into the stones that were frozen, to keep themselves from falling in so slippery a way; in fine, others, driving in their wedges with great strength, made them serve as so many scaling ladders. They spent the whole day in this manner, hanging against the rock, and exposed to numerous dangers and difficulties, being obliged to struggle at the same time with snow, cold and wind. Nevertheless the hardest task was yet to come; and the further they advanced the higher the rock seemed to rise. But that which terrified them most, was the sad spectacle of some of their comrades falling down precipices, whose unhappy fate was a warning to them of what they themselves might expect. Notwithstanding this, they still advanced forward, and exerted themselves so vigorously, that, in spite of all these difficulties, they at last got to the  
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top of the rock. They then were all inexpressibly weary, and many of them had even lost the use of some of their limbs. Night and drowsiness came upon them at the same time, so that, dispersing themselves in such distant parts of the rock as were free from snows, they laid down in them, and slept till day-break. At last waking from a deep sleep, and looking on all sides to discover the place where so many people could lie hid, they saw smoke below them, which shewed them the haunt of the enemy. They then put up the signal, as had been agreed; and their whole company drawing up, thirty-two were found wanting, who had lost their lives in the ascent.

In the mean time the king, equally fired with a desire of storming the fortress, and struck with the visible dangers to which those men were exposed, continued on foot the whole day, gazing upon the rock, and he himself did not retire to rest till dark night. The next morning, by peep of day, he was the first who perceived the signal. Nevertheless, he was still in doubt whether he might trust his eyes, because of the false splendour which breaks out at day-break; but the light increasing; he was sure of what he saw. Sending therefore for Cophes, who before, by his command, had sounded the Barbarians, he dispatched him a second time. Cophes employed all the arguments possible, to engage Arimazes to capitulate; representing to him, that he would gain the king's favour, in case he did not interrupt the great designs he meditated, by obliging him to make some stay before that rock. Arimazes sent a haughtier and more insolent answer than before, and commanded him to retire. Then Cophes taking him by the hand, desired he would come out of the cave with him, which the Barbarian doing, he shewed him the Macedonians posted over his head, and said, in an insulting tone of voice, " You see that Alexander's soldiers have wings."

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In the mean time, the trumpets were heard to sound in every part of the Macedonian camp, and the whole army shouted aloud and cried, victory. This threw the Barbarians into so great a consternation, that without once reflecting how few were got to the summit, they thought themselves lost. Upon this Cophes was recalled, and thirty of the chiefs among the Barbarians were sent back with him, who agreed to surrender up the place, upon condition that their lives might be spared. The king, notwithstanding the strong opposition he might meet with, was however so exasperated at the haughtiness of Arimazes, that he refused to grant them any terms of capitulation. A blind and rash confidence in his own good fortune, which had never failed him, made him insensible to every danger. Arimazes, on the other side, blinded by fear, and concluding himself absolutely lost, came down, with his relations and the principal nobility of the country, into Alexander's camp. But this prince, who was not master of his anger, forgetting what the faith of treaty and humanity required on this occasion, caused them all to be scourged with rods, and afterwards to be fixed to crosses, at the foot of the same rock. The multitudes of people who surrendered, with all the booty, were given to the inhabitants of the cities which had been newly founded in those parts; and Artabazus was left governor of the rock, and the whole province round it.

Alexander having subdued the Massagetæ and the Dahæ, entered Bazaria. In this province are a great number of large parks stocked with deer. Here the king took the diversion of hunting, in which he was exposed to very great peril; for a lion of an enormous size advanced directly to him, but he killed him with a single thrust.

From hence he advanced to Maracanda, where he quelled some tumults which had broke out in that country. Artabazus requesting to be discharged from the government of that

that province, by reason of his great age, he appointed Clitus his successor. He was an old officer, who had fought under Philip, and signalized himself on many occasions. At the battle of the Granicus, as Alexander was fighting bare-headed, and Roxanes had his arm raised, in order to strike him behind, he covered the king with his shield, and cut off the Barbarian's hand. The king respecting Clitus, entrusted him with the government of one of the most important provinces of his empire, and ordered him to set out the next day.

Before his departure, Clitus was invited in the evening to an entertainment, in which the king, after drinking immoderately, began to celebrate his own exploits; and was so excessively lavish of self-commendation, that he even shocked those very persons who knew that he spoke truth. However, the oldest men in the company held their peace, till beginning to depreciate the warlike acts of Philip, under whom they had fought many years, Clitus, who also was intoxicated, turning about to those who sat under him at table, quoted to them a passage from Euripides, but in such a manner that the king could only hear his voice, and not the words distinctly. The sense of this passage was, "That the Greeks had done very wrong in ordaining, that in the inscriptions engraved on trophies, the names of kings only should be mentioned; because, by this means, brave men were robbed of the glory they had purchased with their blood." The king, suspecting Clitus had let drop some disobliging expressions, asked those who sat nearest him, what he had said? As no one answered, Clitus, raising his voice by degrees, began to relate the actions of Philip, and his wars in Greece, preferring them to whatever was doing at that time; which created a great dispute between the young and old men. Though the king was prodigiously vexed in his mind, he nevertheless stifled his resentment,  
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and seemed to listen very patiently to all Clitus spoke to his prejudice.

Alexander telling him, that in giving cowardice the name of ill success, he was pleading his own cause; Clitus rises up, with his eyes sparkling with wine and anger, "It is nevertheless this hand, (said he to him, extending it at the same time) that saved your life at the battle of the Granicus. It is the blood and wounds of these very Macedonians, who are accused of cowardice, that raised you to this grandeur. But the tragical end of Parmenio shews, what reward they and myself may expect for all our services." This last reproach stung Alexander: however, he still restrained his passion, and only commanded him to leave the table. "He is in the right," says Clitus, as he rose up "not to bear freeborn men at his table, who can only tell him truth. He will do well to pass his life among Barbarians and slaves, who will be proud to pay their adoration to his Persian girdle, and his white robe." But now the king, no longer able to suppress his rage, snatched a javelin from one of his guards, and would have killed Clitus on the spot, had not the courtiers with-held his arm, and Clitus been forced, but with great difficulty, out of the hall. However he returned into it that moment by another door, singing with an air of insolence, verses reflecting highly on the prince, who seeing the general near him, struck him with his javelin, and laid him dead at his feet, crying out at the same time, "Go now to Philip, to Parmenio, and to Attalus."

The king's anger, being in a manner extinguished, on a sudden in the blood of Clitus, his crime displayed itself to him in its blackest and most dreadful light. He had murdered a man, who indeed abused his patience, but then he had always served him with the utmost zeal and fidelity, and saved his life, though he was ashamed to own it. He

had that instant performed the vile office of an executioner, in punishing, by an horrid murder, the uttering of some indiscreet words, which might be imputed to the fumes of wine. With what face could he appear before the sister of Clitus, who had been his nurse, and offer her a hand embued in her brother's blood? Upon this he threw himself on his friend's body, forced out the javelin, and would have dispatched himself with it, had not the guards, who rushed in upon him, laid hold of his hands, and forcibly carried him into his own apartment.

He passed that night and the next day in tears. After that groans and lamentations had quite wasted his spirits, he continued speechless, stretched on the ground, and only venting deep sighs.

It was with the utmost difficulty that his friends prevailed with him to take a little sustenance. The Macedonians declared by a decree, that Clitus had been very justly killed; which decree Anaxarchus the philosopher had occasioned by asserting, that the will of princes is the supreme law of the state. Alas! how weak are all such reflections, against the cries of a justly-alarmed conscience, which can never be quieted, either by flattery or false arguments!

Alexander now pursued his conquests eastward; and every thing fell into his hands, even to the Indies. Here he had some trouble with king Porus, whom however he subdued and took. Porus was a man of spirit, and his spirit was not destroyed even by his defeat; for, when Alexander asked him, "how he would be treated," he answered very intrepidly, "like a king:" which, it is said, so pleased the conqueror, that he ordered the greatest attention to be paid him, and afterwards restored him to his kingdom.

Alexander being determined to continue in war as long as he should meet with new nations, and to look upon them as enemies whilst they should live independent on him, was  
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meditating about passing the Hyphasus. He was told, that after passing that river he must travel eleven days through deserts, and that then he would arrive at the Ganges, the greatest river in all India. That farther in the country lived the Gangaridæ and the Prasii, whose king was preparing to oppose his entering his dominions, at the head of twenty thousand horse, and two hundred thousand foot, reinforced by two thousand chariots; and, which struck the greatest terror, with three thousand elephants. A report of this being spread through the army, surprized all the soldiers, and raised a general murmur. The Macedonians, who, after having travelled through so many countries, and being grown grey in the field, were incessantly directing their eyes and wishes towards their dear native country, made loud complaints, that Alexander should every day heap war upon war, and danger on danger. They had undergone, but just before, inexpressible fatigues, having been exposed to rain, accompanied with storms and thunder, for above two months. Some bewailed their calamities in such terms as raised compassion; others insolently cried aloud, that they would march no farther.

Alexander, being apprized of this discontent, made the following speech to his officers and soldiers:—"I am not ignorant, O soldiers, that the Indians have published several things, purposely to terrify us; but such discourses and artifices are not unusual to you. Thus the Persians described the straits at Cilicia, the vast plains of Mesopotamia, the rivers Tygris and Euphrates, as so many insurmountable difficulties, and yet your bravery conquered them. Do you repent you have followed me thus far? As your glorious deeds have subdued for you a multitude of provinces, as you have extended your conquests beyond the Iaxartes and mount Caucasus; as you see the rivers of India flow through the midst of your empire; why are you

afraid of crossing the Hyphasus; and of setting up your trophies on the banks of it, as on those of the Hydaspes? What! can the elephants, whose number is so falsely augmented, terrify you to such a degree? But has not experience taught you, that they are more destructive to their own masters than to the enemy? Endeavours are used to intimidate you by the dreadful idea of innumerable armies; but are they more numerous than those of Darius? It is sure very late for you to count the legions of the enemy, after your victories have made Asia a desert. It was when you crossed the Hellespont that you ought to have reflected on the small number of our forces: but now, the Scythians form part of our army; the Bactrians, the Sogdians, and the Dahæ, are with us, and fight for our glory. I, however, do not depend on those Barbarians. It is on you only that I rely; your victorious arms only are present to my imagination, and your courage alone assures me success. So long as I shall be surrounded with you in fight, I shall not have any occasion to count the number of my troops nor that of the enemy, provided you go on to battle with the same marks of joy and confidence you have hitherto discovered. Not only our glory, but even our safety is at stake. Should we now retreat, it will be supposed that we fly before our enemies, and from that moment we shall appear as mean as the enemy will be judged formidable; for you are sensible, that in war reputation is every thing. It is in my power to make use of authority, and yet I employ entreaties only. Do not abandon, (I conjure you) I do not say your king and master, but your pupil and companion in battles. Do not break to pieces in my hand that glorious palm, which will soon, unless envy rob me of so great a glory, equal me to Hercules and to Bacchus." As the soldiers stood with their eyes cast on the ground, and did not once open their lips; "What! (continued he),  
do



do I then speak to the deaf? Will no one listen to me, nor condescend to answer? Alas! I am abandoned, I am betrayed, I am delivered up to the enemy. But—I will advance still further, though I go alone. The Scythians and Bactrians, more faithful than you, will follow me whithersoever I lead them. Return then to your country, and boast, ye deserters of your king, that you abandoned him. As for myself, I will here meet either with the victory you despair of, or with a glorious death, which hence-forwards ought to be the sole object of my wishes.”

Notwithstanding this lively, pathetic speech, the soldiers still kept a profound silence. They waited in expectation of hearing their commanders and chief officers remonstrate to the king, that their affection was as strong as ever; but that, as their bodies were covered with wounds, and worn out with toils, it would be impossible for them to continue the war. At last, whilst the whole assembly were in tears, and in deep silence, Coentus took courage, and drew near to the throne, and spoke as follows: “No, Sir, we are not changed with regard to our affection for you: God forbid that so great a calamity should ever befall us. We shall always retain the same zeal, the same affection and fidelity. We are ready to follow you at the hazard of our lives, and to march whithersoever you shall think fit to lead us. But if your soldiers may be allowed to lay before you their sentiments sincerely, and without disguise, they beseech you to condescend so far as to give ear to their respectful complaints, which nothing but the most extreme necessity could have extorted from them. The greatness, Sir, of your exploits has conquered, not only your enemies, but even your soldiers themselves. We have done all that it was possible for men to do. We have crossed seas and lands. We shall soon have marched to the end of the world; and you are meditating the conquest of another,

then, by going in search of new Indias, unknown to the Indians themselves. Such a thought may be worthy of your valour, but it surpasses ours, and our strength still more. Behold those ghastly faces, and those bodies covered over with wounds and scars. You are sensible how numerous we were at your first setting out, and you see what now remains of us. The few, who have escaped so many toils and dangers, are neither brave nor strong enough to follow you. All of them long to revisit their relations and country, and to enjoy in peace the fruit of their labours and your victories. Forgive them a desire natural to all men. It will be glorious, Sir, for you to have fixed such boundaries to your fortune, as only your moderation could prescribe you; and to have vanquished yourself, after having conquered all your enemies."

Cœnus had no sooner spoke, but there were heard, on all sides, cries and confused voices intermixed with tears, calling upon the king as their lord and their father. Afterwards, all the rest of the officers, especially those who assumed a greater authority because of their age, and for that reason could be better excused the freedom they took, made the same humble request: but still the king would not comply with it. It must cost a monarch many pangs, before he can prevail with himself to comply with things repugnant to his inclination. Alexander therefore shut himself up two days in his tent, without speaking to any one, not even to his most familiar friends, in order to see whether some change might not be wrought in the army, as frequently happens on such occasions. But, finding it would be impossible to change the resolution of the soldiers, he commanded them to prepare for their return. This news filled the whole army with inexpressible joy; and Alexander never appeared greater, or more glorious, than on this day, in which he designed, for the sake of his subjects,

jects, to sacrifice some part of his glory and grandeur. The whole camp echoed with praises and blessings of Alexander, for having suffered himself to be overcome by his own army, who was invincible to the rest of the world. No triumph is comparable to those acclamations and applauses that come from the heart, and which are the lively and sincere overflowings of it; and it is great pity that princes are not more affected with them.

Alexander had not spent above three or four months, at most; in conquering all the country between the Indus and the Hyphafus, called to this day Pengab, that is, the five waters, from the five rivers which compose it.

He afterwards crossed the Hydraotes, and left Porus, the Indian, all the lands he had conquered, as far as the Hyphafus.

His fleet consisted of eight hundred vessels, as well galleys as boats, to carry the troops and provisions. The whole army embarked, and after great difficulty arrived near the country of the Oxydracæ and the Malli, the most valiant people in those parts, who had drawn together ten thousand horse, and fourscore thousand foot, with nine hundred chariots. However, Alexander defeated them in several engagements, and marched against the city of the Oxydracæ, whither the greatest part were retired. Immediately he causes the scaling ladders to be set up; and, as they were not nimble enough for Alexander, he forces one of the scaling ladders from a soldier; runs up the first (covered with his shield) and gets to the top of the wall, followed only by Peucestes and Limneus. The soldiers, believing him in danger, mounted swiftly to succour him; but the ladders breaking, the king was left alone. Alexander, seeing himself the butt against which all the darts were levelled, both from the towers and from the rampart, was so rash, rather than valiant, as to leap into the city, which

which was crouded with the enemy, having nothing to expect, but to be either taken or killed before it would be possible for him to rise, and without once having an opportunity to defend himself, or revenge his death. But, happily for him, he poised his body in such a manner, that he fell upon his feet; and, finding himself standing, sword in hand he repulsed such as were nearest him, and even killed the general of the enemy, who advanced to run him through. Happily for him a second time, not far from thence there stood a great tree, against the trunk of which he leaned, his shield receiving all the darts that were shot at him from a distance; for no one dared to approach him, so great was the dread which the boldness of the enterprize, and the fire that shot from his eyes, had struck into the enemy. At last, an Indian let fly an arrow three foot long, that being the length of their arrows, which piercing his coat of mail, entered a considerable way into his body, a little above the right side. So great a quantity of blood issued from the wound, that he dropt his arms, and lay as dead. Behold then this mighty conqueror, this vanquisher of nations, upon the point of losing his life, not at the head of his armies, but in a corner of an obscure city, into which his rashness had thrown him. The Indian, who had wounded Alexander, ran, in the greatest transports of joy, to strip him; however, Alexander no sooner felt the hand of his enemy upon him, but fired with the thirst of revenge, he recalled his spirits; and, laying hold of the Indian, as he had no arms, he plunged his dagger into his side. Some of his chief officers, as Peucestes, Leonatus, and Timæus, who had got to the top of the wall with some soldiers, came up that instant, and attempting impossibilities, for the sake of saving their sovereign's life, they form themselves as a bulwark round his body, and sustain the whole effort of the enemy. It was then that a mighty battle was fought

fought round him. In the mean time the soldiers, who had climbed up with the officers above mentioned, having broke the bolts of a little gate standing between two towers, they, by that means, let in the Macedonians. Soon after the town was taken, and all the inhabitants were put to the sword, without distinction of age or sex.

The first care they took, was to carry Alexander into his tent. Being got into it, the surgeons cut off so very dexterously the wood of the shaft which had been shot into his body, that they did not move the steel point; and, after undressing him, they found it was a bearded arrow; and that it could not be pulled out, without danger, unless the wound were widened. The king bore the operation with incredible resolution, so that there was no occasion for people to hold him. The incision being made, and the arrow drawn out, so great an effusion of blood ensued, that the king fainted away. Every one thought him dead; but the blood being stopt, he recovered by degrees.

Before his wound was closed, he caused two vessels to be joined together, and had his tent pitched in the middle, in sight of every one; purposely to shew himself to those who imagined him dead, and to ruin, by this means, all their projects, and the hopes with which they flattered themselves. When he was a little better, and able to go out, the soldiers, who were upon guard, brought him his litter, but he refused it; and calling for his horse, mounted him. At this sight, all the shore and the neighbouring forests echoed with the acclamations of the army, who imagined they saw him rise, in a manner, from the grave.

At this instant deputies came from the Malli, with the chiefs of the Oxydracæ, being one hundred and sixty, besides the governors of the cities and of the province, who brought him presents, and paid him homage, pleading in excuse for not having done it before, their strong love of  
Vol. II. No. 22. 6 P liberty.

liberty. They declared, that they were ready to receive for their governor, whomsoever he pleased to nominate, that they would pay him tribute, and give him hostages. He demanded a thousand of the chief persons of their nation, whom he also might make use of in war, till he had subjected all the country. They put into his hands such of their countrymen as were handsomest and best shaped, with five hundred chariots, though not demanded by him, at which the king was so much pleased, that he gave them back their hostages, and appointed Philip their governor.

Alexander was overjoyed at this embassy. His chief courtiers and most intimate friends thought it a proper juncture for them to unbosom themselves, and expose their fears to him: It was Craterus spoke on this occasion. "We begin, royal Sir, to breathe and live, now we find you in the condition to which the goodness of the gods has restored you. But how great were our fears and our griefs! How severely did we reproach ourselves, for having abandoned, in such an extremity, our king, our father! It was not in our power to follow him; but this did not extenuate our guilt, and we look upon ourselves as criminals, in not having attempted impossibilities for your sake. But, Sir, never plunge us in such deep affliction hereafter. Does a wretched paltry town deserve to be bought at so dear a price as the loss of your life? Leave those petty exploits and enterprizes to us, and preserve your person for such occasions only as are worthy of you. We still shudder with horror, when we reflect on what we so lately were spectators of. We have seen the moment, when the most abject hands upon earth were going to seize the greatest prince in the universe, and despoil him of his royal robes. Permit us, Sir, to say, you are not your own master, but that you owe yourself to us: we have a right over your life, since ours depends on it; and we dare take the freedom to  
conjure

conjure you, as being your subjects and your children, to be more careful of so precious a life, if not for your own sake, at least for ours, and for the felicity of the universe."

The king was strongly touched with these testimonies of their affection. He answered as follows: "I cannot enough thank all present, who are the flower of my citizens and friends, not only for your having this day preferred my safety to your own, but also for the strong proofs you have given me of your zeal and affection from the beginning of this war; and if any thing is capable of making me wish for a longer life, it is the pleasure of enjoying, for years to come, such valuable friends as you. But give me leave to observe, that in some cases we differ very much in opinion. You wish to enjoy me long, and even if it were possible, for ever; but as to myself, I compute the length of my existence, not by years, but by glory. I might have confined my ambition within the narrow limits of Macedonia; and contented with the kingdom my ancestors left me, have waited, in the midst of pleasures and indolence, an inglorious old age. I own, that if my victories, not my years, are computed, I shall seem to have lived long; but can you imagine, that after having made Europe and Asia but one empire; after having conquered the two noblest parts of the world, in the tenth year of my reign, and the thirtieth of my age, that it will become me to stop in the midst of so exalted a career, and discontinue the pursuit of glory to which I have entirely devoted myself? Know, that this glory ennobles all things, and gives a true and solid grandeur to whatever appears insignificant. In what place soever I may fight, I shall fancy myself upon the stage of the world, and in presence of all mankind. I confess that I have achieved mighty things hitherto; but the country we are now in, reproaches me that a woman has done still greater.

greater. It is Semiramis, I mean. How many nations did she conquer! How many cities were built by her! What magnificent and stupendous works did she finish! How shameful is it that I should not yet have attained so exalted a pitch of glory. Do but second my ardor, and I shall soon surpass her. Defend me only from secret cabals and domestic treasens, by which most princes lose their lives, I take the rest upon myself, and will be answerable to you for all the events of the war."

This speech gives us a perfect idea of Alexander's character. He had no notion of true glory. He did not know either the principle, the rule or end of it. He certainly placed it where it was not. He was strongly prejudiced in vulgar error, and cherished it. He fancied himself born merely for glory; and that none could be acquired but by unbounded, unjust and irregular conduct. In his impetuous sallies after a mistaken glory, he followed neither reason, virtue, nor humanity; and as if his ambitious caprice ought to have been a rule and standard to all other men, he was surprized that neither his officers nor soldiers would enter into his views; and lent themselves very unwillingly to support his ridiculous enterprizes.

Alexander afterwards came among the Sabracæ, a powerful nation of Indians. They submitted to Alexander, and he built another city which he also called Alexandria.

The king continuing his voyage, arrived at Patala. Here Alexander caused a citadel to be built, as also an harbour and an arsenal for the shipping.

At last, after having sailed full nine months in rivers, he arrived at the ocean, where gazing with the utmost eagerness upon that vast expanse of waters, he imagined that this sight, worthy so great a conqueror as himself, greatly overpaid all the toils he had undergone, and the many thousand men he had lost, to arrive at it. He then



then offered sacrifices to the gods, and particularly to Neptune; and besought the gods, not to suffer any mortal after him, to exceed the bounds of his expedition. Finding that he had extended his conquests to the extremities of the earth on that side, he imagined he had completed his mighty design; and, highly delighted with himself, he returned to rejoin the rest of his fleet and army, which waited for him at Patala and in the neighbourhood of it.

Alexander quits Patala, and marches through deserts, where he is grievously distressed by famine. He arrives at Pasagardæ, where the great Cyrus's monument stood, which he renews. He next arrives at Susa, where he marries Stastira, Darius's eldest daughter.

Alexander appeases an insurrection among his soldiers, and discharged such of them as were no longer able to carry arms, and sent them back to their native country with rich presents. He then appoints Craterus commander of his soldiers, and gave the government of Macedonia, Thrace, and Thessaly to him, which Antipater had enjoyed.

It happened during the celebration of festivals at Caba-tana, that Hephæstion died of a disease which he brought upon himself. Alexander abandoning himself to immoderate drinking, his whole court followed his example, and sometimes spent whole days and nights in these excesses. In one of them Hephæstion lost his life. He was the most intimate friend the king had, the confident of all his secrets, and, to say all in a word, a second self. Craterus only seemed to dispute this honour with him. A few words, which one day escaped that prince, shews the difference he made between these two courtiers. "Craterus," says he, "loves the king, but Hephæstion loves Alexander." This expression signifies, that Hephæstion had devoted himself, in a tender and affectionate manner to the person of Alexander;

ander; but that Craterus loved him as a king, that is, was concerned for his reputation; and sometimes was less obsequious to his will, than he was zealous for his glory and interest. An excellent character, but very uncommon.

In order to remove, by business and employment, the melancholy ideas which the death of his favourite perpetually awakened in his mind, Alexander marched his army against the Cossæi, a warlike nation inhabiting the mountains of Media, whom not one of the Persian monarchs had ever been able to conquer. However, the king reduced them in forty days, afterwards passed the Tigris, and marched towards Babylon.

Alexander enters Babylon, where he continued almost a year, during which time he revolved a great number of projects in his mind; such as to go round Africa by sea; to make a compleat discovery of all the nations lying round the Caspian sea, and inhabiting its coasts; to conquer Arabia; to make war with Carthage, and to subdue the rest of Europe. The very thoughts of sitting still fatigued him, and the great vivacity of his imagination and ambition would never suffer him to be at rest; nay, could he have conquered the whole world, he would have sought a new one, to satiate the avidity of his desires.

The embellishing of Babylon also employed his thoughts very much. Finding it surpassed in extent, in convenience, and in whatever can be wished, either for the necessities or pleasures of life, all the other cities of the east, he resolved to make it the seat of his empire; and for that purpose, was desirous of adding to it all the conveniences and ornaments possible.

Although Alexander employed himself in beautifying and building temples during his stay in Babylon, he spent the greatest part of his time in such pleasures as that city afforded; and one would conclude, that the chief aim  
both

both of his occupations and diversions, was to stupify himself, and to drive from his mind the melancholy and afflicting ideas of an impending death, with which he was threatened by all the predictions of the Magi and other soothsayers : For though in certain moments he seemed not to regard the various notices which had been given him, he was however seriously affected with them inwardly ; and these gloomy reflections were for ever returning to his mind. They terrified him at last to such a degree, that whenever the most insignificant thing happened, (if ever so little extraordinary and unusual) his imagination swelled it immediately to a prodigy, and interpreted it into an unhappy omen. The palace was now filled with sacrifices, with persons whose office was to perform expiations and purifications, and with others who pretended to prophecy. It was certainly a spectacle worthy a philosophic eye, to see a prince, at whose nod the world trembled, abandoned to the strongest terrors ; so true is it, says Plutarch, that if the contempt of the gods, and the incredulity which prompts us neither to fear or believe any thing, be a great misfortune, the superstitious man, whose soul is a prey to the most abject fears, the most ridiculous follies, is equally unhappy.

Alexander was therefore for ever solemnizing new festivals, and perpetually at new banquets, in which he quaffed with his usual intemperance. After having spent a whole night in carousing, a second was proposed to him. He met accordingly, and there were twenty guests at table. He drank to the health of every person in company, and then pledged them severally. After this, calling for Hercules's cup, which held six bottles, it was filled, when he poured it all down, drinking to a Macedonian of the company, Proteas by name ; and afterwards pledged him again, in the same furious bumper. He had no sooner swallowed it but he fell upon the floor. " Here then," cries Seneca,  
(describing

(describing the fatal effects of drunkenness) "is this hero, invincible to all the toils of prodigious marches, to the dangers of sieges and combats, to the most violent extremes of heat and cold; here he lies, conquered by his intemperance, and struck to the earth by the fatal cup of Hercules."

In this condition he was seized with a violent fever, and carried half dead to his palace. The fever continued, though with some good intervals, in which he gave the necessary orders for the sailing of the fleet, and the marching of his land-forces, being persuaded he should soon recover. But at last, finding himself past all hopes, and his voice beginning to fail, he drew his ring from his finger, and gave it to Perdiccas, with orders to convey his corpse to the temple of Ammon.

Notwithstanding his great weakness, he however struggled with death, and raising himself upon his elbow, presented his soldiers (to whom he could not refuse this last testimony of friendship) his dying hand to kiss. After this, his principal courtiers asking to whom he left the empire! he answered, "To the most worthy;" adding, that he foresaw the decision of this would give occasion to strange funeral games after his decease. And Perdiccas enquiring further at what time they should pay him divine honours? He replied, "When you are happy." These were his last words, and soon after he expired. He was thirty-two years and eight months old, of which he had reigned twelve. He died in the middle of the spring, the first year of the CXIV<sup>th</sup> Olympiad.

The character of this hero was equally composed of very great virtues, and very great vices. He had no mediocrity in any thing but his stature: in his other properties, whether good or bad, he was all extremes. His ambition rose even to madness. His father was not at all mistaken in supposing the bounds of Macedon too small for his son:

for

for how could Macedon bound the ambition of a man, who reckoned the whole world too small a dominion? He wept at hearing the philosopher Anaxarchus say, that there was an infinite number of worlds: his tears were owing to his despair of conquering them all, since he had not yet been able to conquer one.

Alexander's excesses with regard to wine were notorious, and beyond all imagination, and he committed, when drunk, a thousand extravagances. It was owing to wine that he killed Clytus, who saved his life, and burnt Persepolis, one of the most beautiful cities of the East: he did this last indeed at the instigation of the courtesan Thais; but this circumstance made it only the more heinous. In short, to sum up the character of this prince, we cannot be of opinion, that his good qualities did in any wise compensate for his bad ones. Heroes make a noise: their actions glare and strike the senses forcibly; while the infinite destruction and misery they occasion, lies more in the shade, and out of sight. One good legislator is worth all the heroes that ever did or will exist.



*A Curious Battle between a HAWK and a COCK.*

THE following singular circumstance occurred a few weeks ago, in the garden of Mr. Markwick, of Fittleworth, Sussex.—A hawk pounced on a chicken, about half-grown, and whilst encumbered with his prey, was perceived by the parent cock, who immediately made at the intruder, and by one blow laid him at his feet; the chicken was by this time disengaged, and a battle between the hawk and the cock ensued, which ended, after three rounds, in favour of chanticleer, from whose feet, Mr. Markwick (who with two other persons had witnessed the conflict, took the petty tyrant of the air, with very few remaining symptoms of life, which he presently resigned in his hands.

*Memoirs of GEORGE HILL, ESQ. the King's Antient Serjeant.*

**M**R. Serjeant Hill is descended from an antient family in the West of England. Having evinced an early disposition for letters, his father was determined that the gifts of nature should be embellished by art. Therefore having passed through his academical studies with no small share of applause, the learned professions were placed in his view, and he was left to his choice. After some consideration, he fixed on the law. His friends had a just right to indulge the most sanguine hopes of his success, in a profession that leads to the highest dignities and emoluments. The paths that lead, however, to these honours and emoluments are rugged, and perplexed with thorns, but our youthful candidate, either for the coif or the ermine, was not to be deterred by the length or difficulty of the road; he was determined at his outset to trace the different branches of the English law up to their native sources. His youth, an excellent memory, and an industry that was not to be defeated either by disappointment or fatigue, enabled him to execute this arduous task. The depth of his legal knowledge, his integrity and attention to whatever regarded the interest of his clients, raised him in a few years to a very respectable situation in his profession.

He has been known to plead with uncommon success at the bar, without so much as having once resorted to wit, or any of those rhetorical figures, with which our forensic oratory of late years has been so plentifully strewed. He was always the first to stand forward in the cause of the widow and the orphan, and found his principal reward in the justice of their cause.

This venerable character has been the great authority on all questions of constitutional and parliamentary law.

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Singular Habillment of  
**GEO: HILL ESQ<sup>r</sup>**  
The King's Antient Sergeant.

*Engraved by John Kaye for the Author from a drawing by George Kneller.*





He has uniformly refused all offers of advancement to the Bench, preferring the tranquil enjoyment of literary ease, with the splendid fortune which his talents has realized; and now at the age of ninety, he passes his life in his library (the most valuable collection of legal books and manuscripts in the world) with all his faculties unimpaired, and with all the patriotic ardour and affection for his country, which characterized his early years.

The late direct and unqualified charge against the government of England by Bonaparte, that they were partizans and accomplices in the plot of assassination which he pretends to have discovered, has made a strong impression on the mind of Mr. Sergeant Hill, who is acknowledged the oldest and ablest law authority in this kingdom. He has accordingly come forward in a way most worthy of his high character, to rescue the country from so foul a reproach. Struck with the effect which these imputations must produce on the whole of enlightened Europe, if not refuted, he lately addressed himself to the Lord Chancellor of England, and transmitted to him a short memorandum on the subject, urging the necessity of an immediate and formal contradiction in parliament of the monstrous charge. And we understand in March, 1804, this venerable character went down to the House of Commons, in the dress which makes him so conspicuous, to communicate to the Attorney-General his feelings and ideas on the subject. He had accordingly a long conversation with him, in which he prayed him to take some public step to vindicate the country from this vile accusation; and told him, as it was a thing in which all parties were equally interested for the national honour, he should also make an appeal to Mr. Fox, and to every other person of his acquaintance, whom he conceived to be actuated by manly and honourable feelings. His whole object was, that the

British people should stand clearly acquitted of so foul an aspersion.

The manners of this gentleman were always amiable, and time may be said to have tempered his passions to such a degree, that they cannot be ruffled even by the insults of those that attempt to turn his dress into ridicule. He is so well aware of the capriciousness of our climate, that he seldom ventures out without his umbrella. He makes it a rule to walk every day in Hyde Park from twelve to one, attended by a servant, and when the boys run after him and call out "old umbrella," instead of beating them off, the servant, by his desire, distributes money amongst them. One of his daughters is married to the Hon. Mr. Cochrane. He has a country-house at Kettlewell, in Northamptonshire, and his town residence is in Charlotte-street, Bloomsbury, and his chambers are in Lincoln's-Inn. He is an affectionate father, a kind master to his servants, an indulgent landlord to his tenantry, and very charitable to the poor. He has worn the kind of dress in which his portrait is drawn, (a broad hat tied under his chin, a silk ribbon tied round his waist, with other peculiarities in his habiliment) more than thirty years, so that his coat, like Sir Roger de Coverley's, has been in and out of fashion at least a dozen times in that period.

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To the EDITOR of the WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

Sir,

As you gave place in your excellent Museum to some Observations transmitted you a few Months ago, on the Singular savage Customs of those Antipodean race of Beings, the Natives of NEW SOUTH WALES, I have now inclosed you a concise but correct account of their FUNERAL RITES.

THE first peculiarity noticeable in their funeral ceremonies is, their disposal of their dead. Their young people they consign

consign to the grave. Those who have past the middle age are burnt. *Ben-nil-long*, one of the natives who visited this country, when his wife died, determined to burn her. He was accompanied on this occasion by his own sister, and one or two other women. The spot whereon the pile was to be constructed, was prepared by excavating the ground with a stick to the depth of three or four inches, and on this part, so turned up, were first placed small sticks, and light brush wood, till the pile was three feet high. When wood enough had been procured, some grass was spread over the pile, and the corpse, covered with an old blanket, was borne to it by some of *Ben-nil-long's* companions, and placed on it with the head to the northward. A basket, with the fishing apparatus, and other small furniture of the deceased, was placed by her side; and *Ben-nil-long*, having laid some large logs of wood over the body, the pile was lighted by one of the party. Being constructed of dry wood, it was quickly all in a flame.

The following day he paid the last duties of an affectionate husband. In one hand he had the spear with which he meant to punish the *car-nah-dy*, for non-attendance on his wife when she was ill; with the end of which he raked the calcined bones and ashes together in a heap; then laying the spear upon the ground, he formed with a piece of bark a tumulus, that would have done credit to a well practiced grave-digger, carefully laying the earth round, smoothing every little unevenness, and paying a scrupulous attention to the exact proportion of its form. On each side of the tumulus he placed a log of wood, and on the top of it deposited the piece of bark with which he had so carefully effected its construction. He did not suffer any thing to divert him from the business he had in hand; nor did he seem to be in the least desirous to have it quickly dispatched, but paid this last rite with an attention that did honour

honour to his feelings as a man; for it seemed the result of an heartfelt affection for the object of it, of whose person nothing now remained but a piece or two of calcined bone. When his melancholy work was ended, he stood for a few minutes with his hands folded over his bosom, and his eye fixed upon his labours, in the attitude of a man in profound thought. Perhaps in that small interval of time, many ideas presented themselves to his imagination. His hands had just completed the last services he could render to a woman, who, no doubt, had been useful to him; one to whom he was certainly attached, and one who had left him a living pledge, of some moments at least, of endearments. Perhaps under the heap which his hands had raised, and on which his eyes were fixed, his imagination traced the form of her whom he might formerly have fought for, and whom he now was never to behold again. Perhaps when turning from the grave of his deceased companion, he directed all his thoughts to the preservation of the little one she had left him; and when he quitted the spot, his anxiety might be directed to the child, in the idea that he might one day see his *Be-rang-a-roo* revive in his little motherless *Dil-beang*.

G. R.

N. B. *The Account of the Natives of New South Wales in our Museum, Nos. 17 and 18, pages 815 to 822, having been attributed to Dr. Thompson, we are authorized to assure our readers, that no part of the account of the Natives, or the remarks on his Excellency Governor King, was written by that gentleman, but by Mr. George Riley, author of a concise account, lately published, of that Colony.*

. Sets of this *Wonderful Museum*, (by Granger, and printed only for Hogg and Co.) done up in volumes as far as published, are recommended to be transmitted to the Colony of New South Wales, as a most acceptable present

to Europeans there, as well as a sure venture in trade. It is a work of real merit, and as such, will find its way, and recommend itself in any foreign market, as well as it does at home.

Deaths of REMARKABLE PERSONS.

IN 1786, died at Galston, in Scotland, Marian Gibson, aged 100. About ten years before her death she received a new set of teeth, and her eye-sight was so clear afterwards till her death, that she could do the finest needle-work, or read the smallest print without the help of glasses.

In December, 1803, died at London, John Page, at the age of 101 years. He was fifty years gardener to the Asylum.

In January, 1804, died at the age of 97 years, in Piccadilly, Mrs. Sarah Oliver, (at her daughter's house) relict of F. Oliver, Esq. of Exeter, and grandmother to the present Lord Bishop of Gloucester.

On the 28th of December, 1788, Moses Haines, of Kingswood, in Wiltshire, aged 73 years, formerly a day-labourer, and lately a pauper. He was allowed two shillings a week by the parish, with liberty to beg of the charitable; to whom he constantly told a tale of pretended distress, and mentioned the severity of his parish in granting him so small a sum. He had been charged with possessing money, but this he solemnly denied. After his death, however, his house was searched, and the following sums found, viz. 40 guineas, 248 half-crowns, and 361 shillings, making together 90l. 1s.

On the first of January, 1789, Mr. Heath, of Nottingham, formerly a respectable bookseller of that place. He had been to a dissenting place of worship the last night of the past year, and did not return home till late, when
he

he found his wife had retired to rest; and after informing her that the clock had struck twelve, he wished her many happy years, fell back upon the floor, and died almost without a groan.

On the 14th of August, 1789, John Hooper, Esq. of Walcot, near Bath, aged 75 years. This extraordinary character is supposed to have died possessed of 3000*l.* a year, though his origin was little better than that of a day-labourer. But extreme penury, possessing lands contiguous to Bath, a long life, and an extremely avaricious disposition, can work wonders. He lived in a mean house opposite Walcot church-yard, the inside of which were walls originally white-washed, and annually ornamented with a Poor-Robin fixpenny almanack. He kept a few meagre dogs for coursing, which was his only pastime. He boiled his hares, in general, for the principal food for himself and his servants; though it was said he now and then exchanged a hare with his butcher for a piece of mutton.

In November, 1803, died at the workhouse at Manchester, a female pauper, aged 110 years. She has left a grand-daughter, aged 75 years, whom she called her grand-child.

In January, 1804, died at Yarkhill, Herefordshire, Mr. Thomas Patrick, in the 98th year of his age. He retained the use of his limbs, and all his faculties, to the last, in a wonderful manner.

In January, 1804, died at Porlock, Somersetshire, Mrs. Mary Day, at the advanced age of 95 years and ten months.

On January 3, 1804, died at Aberfeldie, Perthshire, in Scotland, John Stewart, tinker, at the advanced and well-authenticated age of 111 years. He retained his faculties in full vigour, and earned a subsistence by his labour till near his death, which was generally thought to have been
hastened

hastened by the festivities of the season. His children have been dead many years, but has left a widow, whom he married in the course of last summer.

On the 14th of January, 1804, died at Llanfihangel, Monmouthshire, in Wales, Mr. John Powell, aged 99. About a year before his death he often walked ten miles a day with pleasure. He retained his faculties very surprisingly to the last. He could see to read the smallest print, without the help of glasses.

In February 12, 1804, died at Smithwait Hall, near Huddersfield, in Yorkshire, Mr. James Sykes, at the age of 97 years. He lived in the reigns of four English sovereigns, and after having seen his children's children, to the fourth generation, he calmly resigned this life.

On April 12, 1804, of a cancer in his throat, Mr. Charles Bennet, upwards of forty years organist of Truro church. This gentleman was respectably descended; but being in childhood deprived of his sight, by the bursting of a wooden gun, he was put under the tuition of that celebrated organist Stanley, with whom he continued seven years. He was soon after appointed organist of Truro; and, during the earliest part of his life, taught his professional science through a great part of his native country. His sprightly wit and convivial temper made him a welcome visitor wherever he went, and often has he "set the table in a roar." Although blind, he delighted in amusements which would appear to give pleasure chiefly to the sight. He was partial to horticulture, and so exquisite was his touch, that he could distinguish and describe all his flowers, and even the different weeds which occasionally mixed with them. Although he had reason to lament the effects of gunpowder, yet he had been known to walk above a mile to hear fire-works let off, perfectly distinguishing between the good and the bad. He enjoyed a game at

whist, and played with skill and precision, having previously marked his cards with a needle so ingeniously, that the punctures were imperceptible to his adversaries, nor was he long in thus preparing the cards for his use. He attended the Truro theatre when honoured by the performance of Mrs. Siddons. Having a son a freeman in the navy, who was with Captain Sir Edward Pellew and Cathew Reynolds; in several of their engagements, he employed his poetical talents in celebrating their achievements. His memory remained unimpaired to the last; as an instance of which, he recollected that a considerable sum of money was due from him to a person who had no security for it, on which account he had it paid off immediately. He was ever punctual in his attendance at church, and never allowed a slight illness, or any other consideration, to interfere with his public duty in that place,

Bedford-square.

MANTUA,

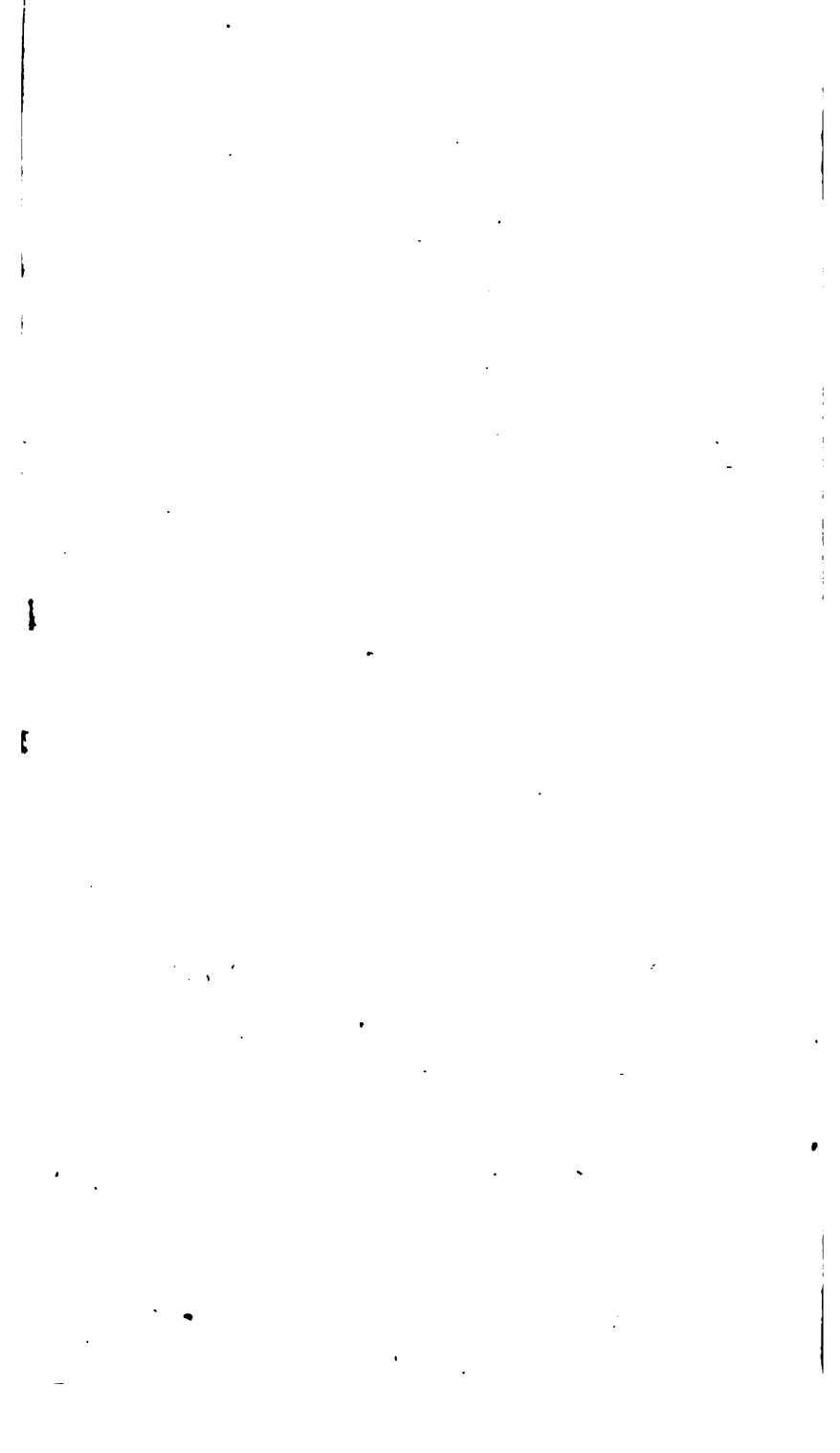


An Account of a STRANGE ANIMAL killed on the Island of Noirmontier, by two Girls, in June, 1761.

IN the month of June, 1761, two young girls of the Island of Noirmontier, seeking for shells in the crevices of the rocks, one of them discovered in a kind of natural grotto an animal of a human form; which, as soon as it saw the girl, erected its head, leaning at the same time on its hands. The girl called to the other, who having a long knife, struck it into the animal, which upon being wounded, groaned like a human person. The two girls cut off its hands, which had fingers and nails quite formed, with webs between the fingers. The surgeon of the island went to see it. The account he gives is, that it was as big as the largest man; that its skin was white, resembling that of a drowned person; that it had the breasts of a full chested woman;



*M^{rs} Siddons,
in Tragedy.*



woman; a flat nose, a large mouth, the chin adorned with a kind of beard, formed of fine shells; and over the whole body tufts of similar white shells. It had the tail of a fish, and at the extremity of it a kind of feet.

Exter.

W. M.

A CURIOUS EXPERIMENT.

Mr. John Walker, of Bassenthwaite chapel, in the county of Cumberland, on the 5th of November, 1802, inclosed a toad in a basin, and, having covered the basin with a slate, deposited it about a foot beneath the surface of the earth. The basin was carefully dug up, on the 8th Feb. last, when its inhabitant was found alive; though much thinner, after its confinement of 15 months. After the curiosity of the spectators had been gratified by a sight of the animal, it was again committed to the earth, as a further experiment.

An Account of WILLIAM LITHGOW, the Wonderful Traveller, whose surprizing Adventures and Sufferings are deemed the most singular in History.

WILLIAM LITHGOW, the celebrated traveller, according to his own account, made three long voyages in the years 1609 to 1628, in the space of which time he visited the most famous kingdoms in Europe, Asia, and Africa; in surveying forty-eight antient and modern kingdoms, twenty-one republics, ten principalities, with two hundred islands. His travels on foot, and his sufferings by imprisonment and torture at Malaga, seem to raise him to the rank of a martyr and a hero. He published an account of his peregrinations and adventures, a book now very rare, in which at the conclusion of his two first voyages he says,

“ After I had, by the great providence of God, escaped infinite dangers by seas, suffering three shipwrecks; by land, in woods, and on mountains often invaded; by ravenous beasts, crawling and venomous worms daily incumbered; by home-bred robbers and remote savages five times stripped to the skin; excessive fastidiousnesses, unspeakable adversities, parching heats, scorching drought, intolerable distresses of hunger, imprisonments, and cold; yet all these incredible sufferings past, could never abate the flame of mine austere affection conceived; but ambitious curiosity, exposing me to a third voyage, I may say as Æneas did in his penitential mood:

O socij ne que inim ignari sumus, ante malorum,
O passi graviora, dabit Deus his quoque finem.

O socials! we're not ignorant of losses,
O sufferings sad, God too will end these crosses.”

Lithgow's last voyage was to Ireland, his description of which is curious and whimsical; from Ireland he went to France, and then to Spain, where he was, by order of the governor and magistrates, apprehended as an English spy; and was secretly imprisoned in the governor's palace, and afterwards unjustly put to the cruel rack and tortures.

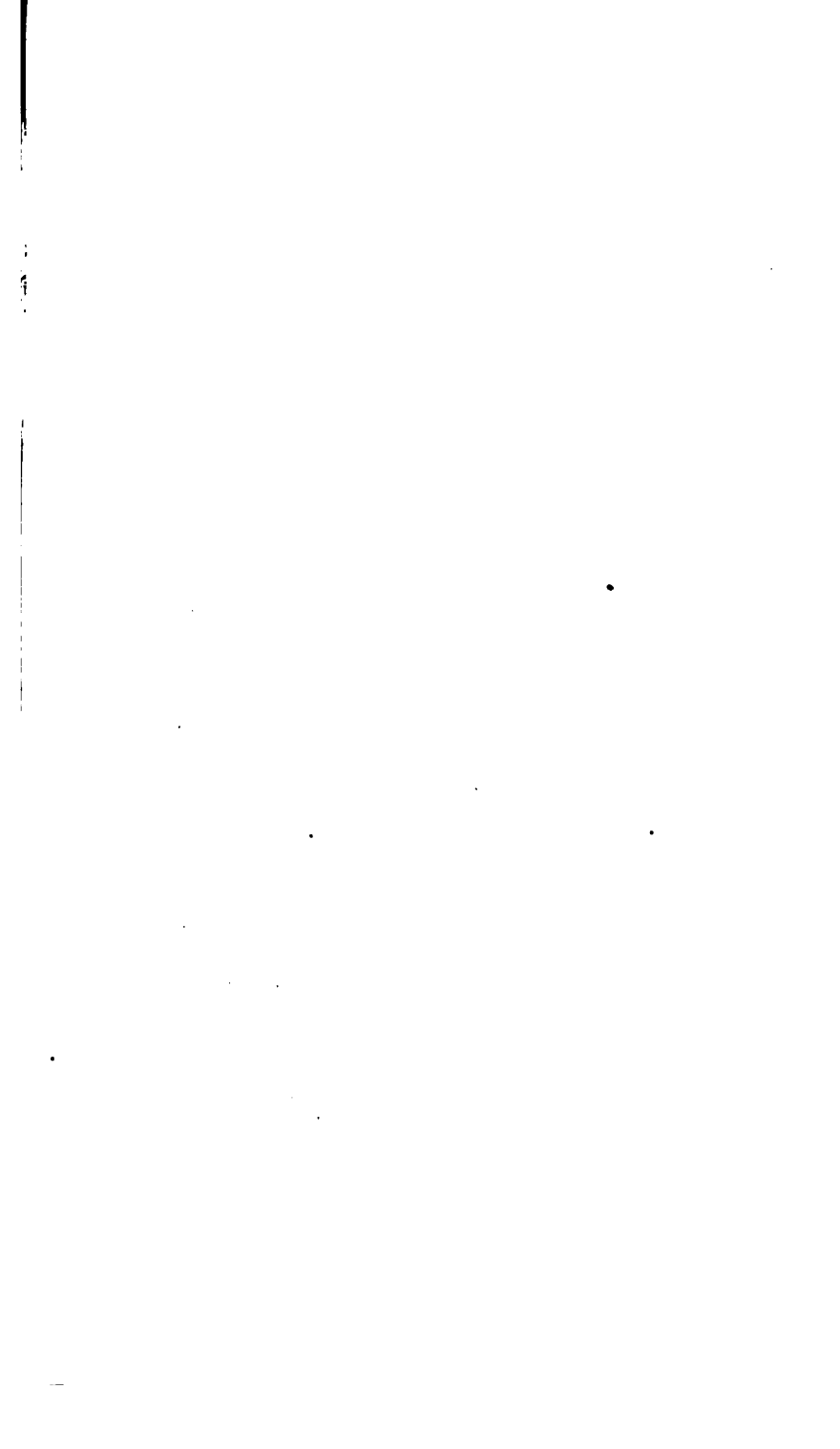
In relating the numerous tortures he underwent at intervals, he thus describes the rack, and his greatest sufferings. “ The *Pottaro*, or rack, stood by the wall of timber, the upmost end whereof is larger than a full stride, the lower end being narrow, and the three planks joining together, are made conformable to a man's shoulders; in the downmost end of the middle plank there was a hole, wherein my head was laid; in length it is longer than a man, being interlaced with small cords from plank to plank, which divided my supported thighs from the middle
plank;



WILLIAM LITHGOW,
In the Tracks he walked through Turkey

Published July 20. 1792. by J. Gantfield, London.





plank ; through the sides of which exterior planks there were three distant holes in every one of them, the use whereof you shall presently hear.

“ The *Alcalde* giving commission, the executioner laid first a cord over the calf of my leg, then another on the middle of my thigh, and the third cord over my arm ; which was severally done on both sides of my body, receiving the ends of the cords, from these six several places, through the holes made in the outward planks, which they fastened to pins, as there were holes and cords ; the cords being first laid meet to my skin : and on every one of these six parts of my body, I was to receive seven several tortures ; each torture consisting of three winding throws of every pin, which amounted to twenty-one throws in every one of those parts. Then the tormentor having changed the first passage above my body, (making fast by device each torture as they were multiplied) he then brought a pot of water, which he poured into my belly, the measure being a *Spanish sombre*, which is an *English pottle*. The first and second services I gladly received, such was the scorching drought of my tormenting pain, and likewise I had drank none for three days before. But afterward, at the third charge, perceiving these measures of water to be inflicted upon me as tortures, O strangling tortures ! I enclosed my my lips, again standing that eager credulity ; whereat, the *Alcalde* enraged, set my teeth asunder with a pair of iron cades, detaining them there at every several turn, both mainly and manually ; whereupon my hunger-clunged belly waxed great, grew drum-like, embolstered : for it being a suffocating pain, in regard of my head hanging downward, and the water re-ingorging itself in my throat, with a struggling force ; it strangled and swallowed up my breath from youling and groaning. Thus I lay five hours upon
the

the rack, having had inflicted upon me sixty several torments ; nevertheless they continued me a long half hour (after all my torments) at the full beading, where my body being all begored with blood, and cut through in every part to the crushed and bruised bones, I pitifully remained, still roaring, howling, foaming, bellowing, and gnashing my teeth, with insupportable cries, before the pins were undone, and my body loosed.

“ True it is, it passeth the capacity of man either sensibly to conceive, or I patiently to express, the intolerable anxiety of mind, and affliction of body, in that dreadful time sustained. At last, my head being by their arms advanced, and my body taken from the rack, the water gushed abundantly from my mouth ; then they re-cloathing my broken, bloody, and cold-trembling body, being all this time stark-naked, I fell twice in a sounding trance ; which they again refreshed with a little wine, and two warm eggs, not for charity done, but that I should be reserved to further punishment ; and if it were not too truly known those sufferings to be of truth, it would almost seem incredible to many, that a man being brought so low with starving hunger, and extreme cruelties, could have subsisted any longer, reserving life. I was now secretly transported to my former dungeon, where I was laid with my head, my heels alike high, upon my former stones. On the next morning the governor entered my room, threatening me still with more tortures, to confess ; and so caused he every morning, long before day, his coach to be rumbled at his gate, and about me where I lay a great noise of tongues, and opening of doors ; and all this they did of purpose to affright and distract me, and to make me believe I was going to be racked again, to make me confess an untruth.

“ I was miserably afflicted with the beastly plagues of gnawing

gnawing vermin, which lay crawling in lumps, within, without, and about my body: yea, hanging in clusters about my beard, my lips and nostrils, and my eye-brows almost enclosing my sight. And for a great satisfaction for their merciless minds, the governor caused Areta, his silver plate keeper, to gather and sweep the vermin upon me twice in eight days, which tormented me to the death, being a perpetual punishment; for mine arms being broke, my hands locked, and sticking fast to the palms of both hands, by reason of the shrunk sinews, I was unable to lift mine arms to stir my fingers, much less to avoid the filthy vermin; neither could my legs nor feet perform it, being impotent in all. Yet I acknowledge the poor infidel, (a turk who was set to watch me) some few times, and when opportunity served, would steal the keys from Areta, and about midnight would enter my room, with sticks and burning oil, and sweeping them together in heaps, would burn the greatest part, to my great release, or doubtless I had been miserably eat up, and devoured by them."

The final sentence of the inquisition was to put him to death, which would have taken place, had it not been that Sir Walter Ashton, then the English ambassador at Madrid, heard of poor Lithgow's lamentable case, by whose perseverance he was delivered, and afterwards sent home.

Soon after his arrival in England, he was carried to Theobalds on a feather-bed, that king James might be an eye-witness of his "martyred anatomy," by which means his wretched body was mangled and reduced to a skeleton. The whole court crouded to see him; and his majesty ordered him to be taken care of; he was twice sent to Bath at his expence. By the king's command, he applied to Gondamor, the Spanish ambassador, for the recovery of the money and other things of value which the governor of Malaga had taken from him, and for a 1000*l.* for his support.

port. He was promised a full reparation for the damage he had sustained; but the perfidious minister never performed his promise. When he was upon the point of leaving England, Lithgow upbraided him with the breach of his word, in the presence-chamber, before several gentlemen of the court. This occasioned their fighting upon the spot; and the ambassador, as the traveller oddly expresses it, had his fistula contrabanded with his fist: for Gondamor it seems was afflicted with a fistula, which often occasioned his using a perforated chair. The unfortunate Lithgow, who was generally commended for his spirited behaviour, was sent to the Marshalsea, where he continued a prisoner nine months. At the conclusion of his "Travels," he informs us, that, in his three voyages "his painful feet have traced over (besides passages of seas and rivers) 36,000 and odd miles, which draweth near to twice the circumference of the whole earth." Here the marvellous seems to rise to the incredible, and to set him in point of veracity below the famous Coryate, whom it is nevertheless certain he far out-walked. It appears by the following extract from his scarce book, that Lithgow had no scruple in appropriating every accident to his own advantage; and that, upon some occasions, he could commit the same actions, he so severely censures in another:

"I traversed the kingdom to Trapundie, seeking transportation for Africk, but could get none: and returning thence overthwart the island, I call to memory being lodged in the bourge of Saramutza, belonging to a young baron, and being bound the way of Castello Franko, eight miles distant, and appertaining to another young noble youth, I rose and marched by the break of day, where it was my luck, half-way from either town, to find both these beardless barons lying dead, and new killed, in the fields, and their horses standing tied to a bush beside them; whereat,
being

being greatly moved, I approached them, and perceiving the bodies to be richly clad with silken stuffs, facilely conjectured what they might be; my host having told me the former night, that these two barons were at great discord about the love of a young noble woman. And here it proved, for that lady's sake, that *Troppo amore* turned to *Presto dolore*.

“ Upon which sight, to speak the truth, I searched both their pockets, and found their two silken purses full loaden with Spanish pistoles; whereat my heart sprung for joy; and taking five rings off their four hands, I hid them and the two purses in the ground, half a mile beyond this place: and returning again, leaped to one of their horses, and came galloping back to Saramutza; where calling up my host, I told him the accident, who, when he saw the horse, gave a shout for sorrow, and running to the castle told the lady the baron's mother; where in a moment, she, her children, and the whole town, run with me to the place, some clad, some naked, some on foot, and some on horse; where when come, grievous was it to behold their woful and sad lamentations. I thus seeing them all mad and distracted of their wits, with sorrow left them without good night, and coming to my treasure made speedy way to Castello Franko, where bearing them the like news, brought them all to the like distraction and flight of feet.—And to reckon the gold that I found in the aforefaid purses it amounted to 300 and odd double pistoles, and their rings being set with diamonds were valued to 100 chicqueens of Malta (eight shillings the piece) which I dispatched for less. But the gold was my best second, which, like Homer's *Iliad* under Alexander's pillow, was my continual *Vade mecum*.”

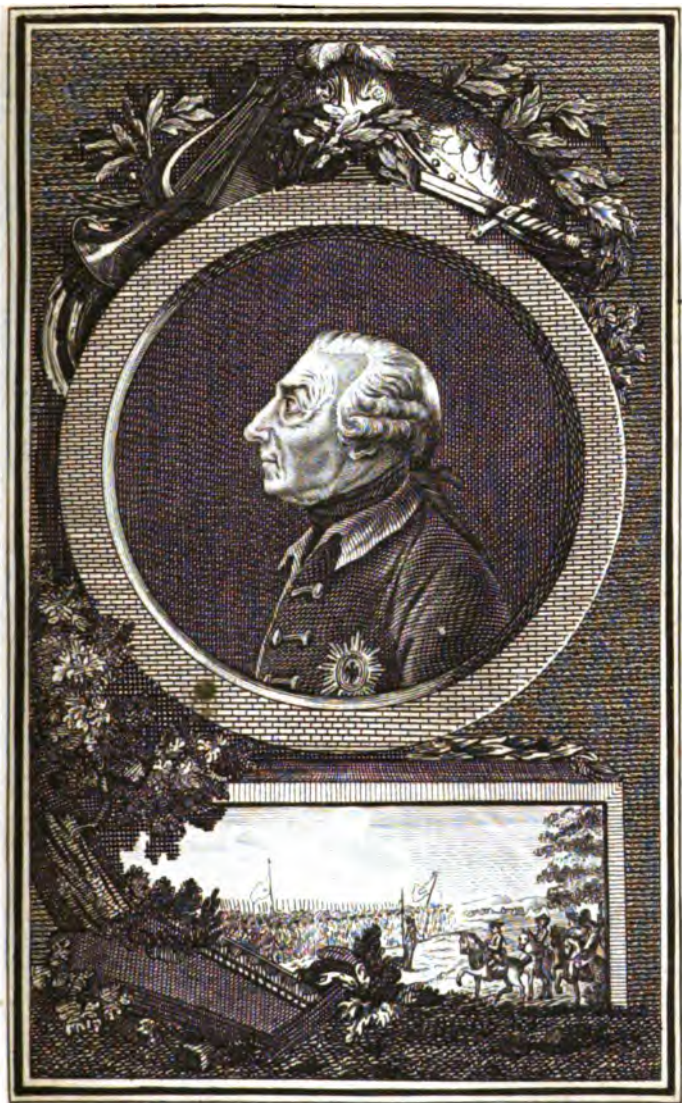
Singular Anecdote of FREDERICK the GREAT.

IN one of the rounds which the king of Prussia used to take among his soldiers, he one night chanced to meet with one of them who appeared to have drank rather too freely. He addressed him in a familiar manner, and asked him, in the course of conversation, how, with his small pay, he was enabled to make such copious libations? "Upon my word, comrade, added he, I am upon the same pay as you, and yet I cannot lay up any thing to spend at the tavern. Pray tell me how you contrive?" "You look like a gentleman, replied the soldier, why should I keep a secret from you? To-day, for instance, I have been treating an old acquaintance; it would be very hard if we could not occasionally enjoy the pleasure of drinking with a friend. Under such circumstances our day's pay would not go far; therefore I have been obliged to have recourse to an old expedient." "What is that?" "Why I pawn those things that I can dispense with for a few days; a little economy soon enables me to recover them. This morning I disposed of the blade of my sabre that way. We shall not be assembled for a week to come, so that I shall not want it." Frederic took particular notice of the man, thanked him for his information, and wished him a good night.

The next day the troops suddenly received an order to assemble. The king reviewed them; and having discovered his comrade of the preceding night, he ordered him out of the ranks, together with his right-hand neighbour, and commanded them to strip. "Now, said he to the former, draw your sabre, and cut off that scoundrel's head." He endeavoured to excuse himself, imploring the king not to consign him to a life of misery, for having killed an honest man with whom he had served fifteen years. The king remained

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— Thornton sculp. —

FREDERICK III. KING of PRUSSIA.







Engraved by J. G. Smith.

COUNT JOSEPH BOROWLASKI,

The celebrated Polish Dwarf.

Printed by J. G. Smith.

remained inflexible.—“ Well Sire, said the soldier at last, as nothing is capable of moving you, I pray to the Almighty to work a miracle in my behalf, and to convert my sabre into a piece of wood.” He pronounced these words with an affected devotion, and feigned the utmost surprise, when upon drawing his sabre, he beheld his wish accomplished!—The monarch admired his address; and not contented with pardoning him, he bestowed on him a handsome gratuity.

Particulars of JOSEPH BORUWLASKI, a Polish Gentleman, and a most astonishing Dwarf. As this Wonderful Character has written his own Memoirs, we shall lay before our Readers some extracts of his Work, containing his own account of his Birth, Education, Marriage, &c.

“ I WAS born (says he) in the environs of Chaliez, the capital of Pokucia, in Polish Russia, in November, 1739. My parents were of the middle size; they had six children, five sons, and one daughter; and by one of those freaks of nature, which it is impossible to account for, or perhaps to find another instance of in the annals of the human species, three of these children grew to above the middle stature, whilst the other two, like myself, reached only that of children in general of the age of four or five years.

I am the third of this astonishing family; my eldest brother, who at this time (1788) is about sixty, is near three inches taller than I am; he has constantly enjoyed a robust constitution, and has still strength and vigour much above his size and age; he has lived a long time with the Castellan Inowloska, who honours him with her esteem and bounty; and finding ability and sense enough, has entrusted him with the stewardship and management of her affairs.

My second brother was of a weak and delicate frame ; he died at twenty-six, being at that time five feet ten inches high. Those who came into the world after me, were alternately tall and short : among them was a female, who died of the small-pox at the age of twenty-two. She was at that time only two feet two inches high, and to a lovely figure, united an admirably well-proportioned shape.

“ It was easy to judge from the very instant of my birth, that I should be extremely short, being at that time only *eight inches* ; yet notwithstanding this diminutive proportion, I was neither weak nor puny : on the contrary, my mother, who suckled me, has often declared that none of her children gave her less trouble. I walked, and was able to speak at about the age common to other infants, and my growth was progressively as follows :

At one year I was 11 inches high, English measure.

At Three	1 foot	2 inches.
At Six	4	5
At Ten	1	9
At Fifteen	2	1
At Twenty	2	4
At Twenty-five	2	11
At Thirty	3	3

This is the size at which I remained fixed, without having afterwards increased half a quarter of an inch ; by which the assertion of some naturalists prove false, viz. that dwarfs grow all their life time. If this instance were insufficient, I could cite that of my brother, who, like me, grew till thirty, and like me, at that age ceased to grow taller. I had scarcely entered my ninth year when my father died, and left my mother with six children, and a very small share in the favours of fortune.

“ A friend of my mother, the Starostina de Caoritz, shewed me much affection, and often had solicited my parents

rents to commit my education to her care. She availed herself of the embarrassed circumstances of our family, to repeat her kind offers to my mother; who, though it might prove grievous to her, yielded to the desire of making me happy; and insisting no longer on keeping me at home, consented, but not without tears, to part with me, and Lady de Caorliz took me to her estate, which was not very far from my mother's abode. We had no sooner arrived there, than the Starostina, eager to fulfil her promises to my mother, bestowed upon me all the care that my age required. I lived with her four years; and the fondness of my benefactress no way diminishing, I was likely to be fixed for ever with her, when an unexpected event changed the face of things. Lady de Caorliz was a widow, somewhat advanced in years, but still fresh coloured and graceful, besides, she enjoyed a large fortune. The Count de Tarnow, whom some affairs had drawn to the neighbourhood, paid his court to her, and I soon perceived she highly distinguished him above all the persons who composed her society. Some months after their marriage, the Countess de Tarnow thought she was pregnant. The joy of this happy couple may be easily conceived. They were congratulated on this occasion by all their friends, among whom they reckoned the Countess Humieſka. Being one day with the new married couple, she artfully took an opportunity of introducing the dangers pregnant women are exposed to; and after having instanced many accidents which some ladies of her acquaintance had experienced, stooped towards the Count, and asked him, loud enough to be heard, whether he did not fear some danger for his lady, from my continually being under her eyes, and if that would not affect the child she was pregnant with. At such a question the couple started, and looked silently at each other. The Countess Humieſka
seeing

siding them moved, set forth as an additional proof, an infinite number of facts, calculated to increase their uneasiness; advised them to part with me; and offered, if they resolved to follow her advice, to take care of me, promising to do her best to make me happy. Whether the new couple were really alarmed, or whether they feared to disoblige such a lady as the Countess, they but weakly resisted, and declared they left it to my decision. I was absent; the servant who came to fetch me, informed me of what had passed. I entered the apartment, quite prepared with my answer, and assured the Countess that, if the Lady de Turnow, whose bounty rendered her the mistress of my fate, deigned to grant me her consent, I should deem myself happy to live under the protection of the Countess, and would follow my inclination as much as my duty, by earnestly endeavouring to deserve her kindness. The Countess Humieska seemed overjoyed at my consent: "I am very glad," said she, "my dear Joujou, (for so they called me) to see you have no reluctance to come and live with me." Then addressing the Count and Countess de Tornow: "You cannot retract," said she, "I have your word and that of Joujou." The remainder of the visit passed in compliments, and our departure was fixed for a few days after.

She carried me to her estate at Rijchty, in Poland, where we staid six months; and her ladyship, whose design was to see Germany and France, desiring to have me with her, I felt the greatest pleasure in the flattering idea I entertained of those travels. After some indispensable preparations, we set out for Vienna.

"After some days of very fatiguing travel, and a dull stay for some months at Leopold, we reached Vienna; where the report of our arrival was no sooner spread than we were visited, invited, and entertained with the utmost eagerness.

eagerness. Soon after we had the honour to be presented to her Imperial Majesty the queen of Hungary, who was graciously pleased to say, that I exceeded by far all that she had heard of me, and that I was one of the most astonishing beings she had ever seen."

Our little author, Joujou (that being the name by which he was distinguished) now mentions the kind attention of the Empress to him, and other cursory circumstances, he then proceeds.

"We staid at Vienna six months only, during which time, my benefactress, availing herself of the opportunity, had me taught dancing by Mr. Angelini, the ballet-master to the court, who since, by his eminent talents in his art, and his taste for literature, has rendered himself so famous. Unluckily for me, being obliged to depart, I could not improve under his care as much as I wished; yet my benefactress could not forbear testifying with raptures at what she called my progress, her gratitude to him, at our setting off for Bavaria.

"Arrived at Munich, we were most graciously welcomed by his electoral highness, and it seemed I excited no less curiosity there than at Vienna. During our stay, which was not long, and presents nothing particular, we spent our time in pleasure and entertainments. We left that place to repair to Lunéville, where Stanislaus Leckzinski, the titular king of Poland, held his court.

At our arrival, this monarch received us with that bounty and affability which gained him every heart; and, being of his country, we were, by his order, lodged in his palace.

With this prince lived the famous Bébé, till then considered as the most extraordinary dwarf that ever was seen; who was, indeed, of a perfectly proportioned shape, with very pleasing features; but who (I am sorry to say it for the

the honour of our species) had, both in his mind and way of thinking, all the defects commonly attributed to us. He was at that time about thirty, his height was two feet eight inches; and when measured, it appeared that I was much shorter, being no more than two feet four inches.

At our first interview, he shewed much fondness and friendship towards me; but when he perceived that I preferred the company and conversation of sensible people to his own, and above all, when he saw that the king took pleasure in my company, he conceived against me the most violent jealousy and hatred; so that, had it not been for a kind of miracle, I could not have escaped his fury.

"One day we were both in the apartment of his majesty. This prince having much caressed me, and asked several questions, to which I gave satisfactory answers, seemed pleased with my replies, and testified his pleasure and approbation in the most affectionate manner; then addressing Bébé, said to him, "You see, Bébé, what a difference there is between Joujou and you! He is amiable, cheerful, entertaining, and full of knowledge; whereas you are but a little machine."—At these words, I saw fury sparkle in his eyes; he answered nothing, but his countenance and blush proved enough that he was violently agitated. A moment after, the king being gone to his closet, Bébé availed himself of that instant to execute his revengeful projects; and sily approaching me, seized me by the waist, and endeavoured to push me into the fire. Luckily I laid hold with both hands of an iron hook, by which, in chimneys, shovels and tongs are kept upright, and thus I prevented his wicked design. The noise I made in defending myself, brought back the king, who came to my assistance, and saved me from that imminent danger. He afterwards called for his servants, put poor Bébé into their hands, bade them inflict on him a corporal punishment, proportioned

to his fault, and ordered him never to appear in his presence any more. In vain did I intercede in behalf of the unhappy Bébé, I could not save him the first part of his sentence; and as for the other, his majesty did not consent to revoke it, but upon condition, he should beg my pardon. Bébé, with much reluctance, submitted to this humiliation, which very likely made on him a deeper impression. In effect, he fell sick a short time after, and died. Every body attributed his death to his jealousy, and to the vexation, which the difference, that was said to be between us, had given him."

Our author now accompanied his benefactress to France, where he was honoured with numberless civilities, from thence they set off for Holland. "My return, (says he) to my native country made much noise. I had not yet been seen in the capital, but was preceded by the reputation I had acquired in my travels, and for which I was indebted to the generous care of my benefactress. Besides, I had improved, during my stay in foreign countries; and, as Paris had given me somewhat of that easy politeness which graces manners, and enhances the lightest prattle; I was so happy as to perceive that many persons, by whom at first I was looked upon only as an object of mere curiosity, sought my society, because they took pleasure in my conversation. Emboldened by this notice, I went oftener to the assemblies than I had done; and wishing to enlarge the circle of my acquaintance, I cultivated an intimacy with several young gentlemen of my age, whose company seemed to me more gay and interesting than that of those who habitually frequented the countess Humieska's house. I had inspired my protectress with confidence enough to allow me a reasonable liberty, of which I availed myself, to go frequently to the play. I had always been very fond of it; but now new sensations, which began to rise in me,

you acquainted with her? How happy are you!"—"So may you be when you please," answered my giddy young spark, "I will introduce you to her as my friend, and you may be sure to be well received." This offer I accepted with transport, and the very next day I was introduced, and welcomed in a manner equal to what I had been made to hope. This visit passed very merrily, and when I retired, she most earnestly invited me often to repeat it.

"With what eagerness did I avail myself of this invitation! how long the moments seemed which were to bring that of seeing her! with what regret did I see those fly away which I spent with her! I was bold enough to declare my passion for her, she seemed to partake of it, and for a while my illusion made me happy. Pleased, nay, intoxicated with this amour, I avoided my young friends,—wanted to enjoy within myself my imaginary felicity, devoted to my young mistress all the moments I could steal from the decency and duty imposed upon me by the bounty of my benefactress.

"Our connection did not last long; I was sincere in my attachment, and imagining myself beloved, she made me happy. Therefore how great must be my astonishment, when one day on meeting by chance the very same young man who had introduced me to her, I was told that my little intrigue was known to every body, and spoken of publicly; that they bantered my discretion, and, when she, whom I thought the most interested in secrecy, did not scruple openly to laugh at my passion and eagerness, at the tumultuous emotions she had excited in me; that she even gloried in it, and produced, as no small proof of her merit, to have provoked in a man of my size a manner of being apparently so little suitable to him. This discovery sunk me down by humbling my pride; I thought I loved sincerely, I had hoped to be sincerely beloved; and it was not
without

without extreme grief I saw the veil fall, and my illusion dispelled."

Speaking of his sister, whose death he heard of about this time, he says:

"Anastasia Boruwlaski, was seven years younger than I, and of so short a stature, that she could exactly stand under my arm; but this can be no matter of astonishment, when what I said before is remembered, that she was only two feet two inches high at the time of her death. Astonishing as she was, for the shortness of her person, and the extreme regular proportions of her shape, with which the nicest sculptor could not have found fault, she was still more so by the qualities of her heart, and the gentleness of her disposition. She was of a brown complexion, with fine black eyes, well circled eye-brows, very thick hair, and so much gracefulness in all she did, that added new charms to her figure. Her temper was lively and cheerful; her heart feeling and beneficent. She could not see a suffering fellow-creature, without seeking to give relief. The Castlane Kaminska, a very rich lady, was both a friend and a protectress to her. She had taken her to her house, expressed for her an unbounded tenderness, refused her nothing; and the little Anastasia availed herself of that ascendancy to gratify her own heart which incited her to generosity.

"My sister, like me, had been so unhappy as to feel those tender affections which diffuse so many charms over our lives, and the sweetness of which does so well counterpoise the troubles, and inquietudes and contradictions which they make us suffer. At twenty, Anastasia was in love, and with so much the more passion, that her attachment was grounded upon the only pleasure of contributing to the happiness of him who was the object of it. She had neither fears, nor sorrows, nor remorses to endure; and thus she might have lived happy, had not jealousy overpowered her, and

and too often troubled her repose. It was not difficult for her benefactress to perceive her inclination : she mentioned it to her ; and this ingenuous, tender and feeling heart did not conceal the sentiments which a young officer of a very handsome shape and fine figure, who frequented the house, had inspired her with. This young gentleman, though of a good family, was not rich ; Anastasia knew it, and endeavouring to find the means of serving him without hurting his delicacy, she contrived to engage him to play at picquet with her ; and generally obliging him to play deep, she contrived always to lose, and thus joined the pleasure of doing him good, to that of avoiding his expressions of gratitude. I know not how far my sister's sensibility would have carried her, if during an excursion to Leopold she had not been seized with the small-pox. Unfortunately for me, and for her friends, the disorder was without remedy. Recourse was had in vain to all the helps of the medical art ; and within two days she died, with the same tranquillity of soul, the same calmness of mind, nay, the same philosophy with which she had lived. I cannot recollect the sad event without shedding tears for the loss of a sister, and of a friend."

Our hero now fell in love with a young person whom his benefactress had taken into her house as a lady in waiting or companion.

"Isalina Barboutan was descended from French parents, long settled in Warsaw, where they enjoyed a happy mediocrity. It was her beauty, her sparkling eyes, the elegance of her shape which struck me at first sight, and subdued my heart. But if from that moment the impression was deep and indelible, what a new force did my sentiments receive, when living in the same house, and having every opportunity to see her, I could freely admire her sweet and insinuating voice, her lovely and chearful conversation, her
easy

easy and noble carriage; when I discovered in her a smart and brilliant wit, an inexhaustible stock of gaiety, a gracefulness that embellished her whole person, and that native meekness which was the plain index of a feeling heart! From this time my happiness was affixed to her fate; without fear I discovered in me all the symptoms of a violent passion; and though I foresaw the numberless obstacles I had to overcome, yet I did not give up my enterprise, and hoped that by dint of perseverance and attention they should be at last surmounted."

We shall here subjoin the correspondence of these tender lovers.

JOÛJOU to ISALINA.

" October 10, 1779.

" The secret of my heart has then escaped me! She who is the object of love knows at last the sentiments of it. May she know them as they are felt! she would then become more tender to me, would see she has no other alternative than to consummate my happiness, or to cause and effect my death. Oh, dearest friend! Oh! that nature had doomed me, by my stature, never to pass the narrow circle of childhood! Why then have given me a feeling heart, allotted me a soul capable of appreciating the qualities of your own, implanted in my bosom the seeds of a violent passion? Why not have proportioned my affections to the narrow compass of my frame? Having prolonged my infancy till my twentieth year, why not have kept me therein for ever? By liberality bestowed on me what she allows to others as a gift of heaven, had she in view my torment and misery? She is not a step-mother; she cannot be so cruel only to me.

" Would that I could venture to say more. You fly me, you endeavour to keep from my sight. Is it thus you take pity on me? Is this the tender mercy you seemed to grant me?

You

You have permitted me to name you my friend, and you refuse me the sentiments of friendship. Can you so cruelly reject those of the tender and unhappy—Joujou ?”

ISALINA to JOUJOU.

“ October 19.

“ Cease, Joujou, do cease to pursue me; be no longer unjust. Your passion vexes me; your grief touches me: the one you carry too far, to the other you yield too much. Love me, I consent; I will also love you; and as much as you please; but that is all. Consider a little, and you will see I cannot do more. Why these transports? Your exalted imagination hinders you from seeing the objects such as they are, such as they ought to be; prevents you, above all, from appreciating the tender concern, the sincere friendship which are devoted to you by your—ISALINA.”

JOUJOU to ISALINA.

“ October 21, Eleven at Night.

“ Where shall I find words, my charming friend, sufficient to express all that your billet has made me feel? You give me leave to love you, and promise a return: Ah! let me incessantly hear these sweet words, which are still echoed to the bottom of my heart! But why your sad and cruel reflections? You forbid my transports! Are you sure it is in my power to obey you? No matter, I will do my endeavours; I will try to reason with you; and perhaps it will not be so difficult as you seem to imagine, to demonstrate that, upon the whole, our reciprocal happiness requires of us to pass beyond the bounds it seems you desire to impose upon me.

“ Yes, charming friend, the more I have reflected, and the more I meditate upon our situation, the less I can see by what our sentiments must be checked or limited. I do not conceal

conceal to myself the innumerable obstacles which oppose our happiness; but cannot love surmount them all? I know very well that, generally speaking, a young person may fear to fall into ridicule by uniting herself to a man of my stature; and this ridicule seems so much the more to be feared, that it may influence your sentiments. Besides, the same prejudice will necessarily determine both your parents and my benefactress to oppose such an union. In fine, we have no fortune; and this sad predicament, by keeping us dependent, seems to deprive us of any hope to be ever happy.

“ Still my charming friend, permit me to communicate to you the divers observations which our situation presents to my mind. For these fifteen months I have been taken up with these considerations, and having had time to meditate upon them, I will freely say to you what I think. Undoubtedly, my dear Isalina, our marriage would furnish matter for conversation, and though commonly the talk of one day hardly reaches the next, yet we, perchance, may be spoken of a whole fortnight. But how could you be blamed or ridiculed, not actuated by ambition or desire of enjoying a large fortune.—The wise, and even the wicked, must be forced to own, that you had no other motive than a profound sentiment, a strong friendship, a sincere desire of making me happy. Would not all these considerations commend your heart?—Far from blaming your conduct, would not every one deem it noble and generous? and on the least reflection, would not the joke be converted into admiration?

“ It is very true, that, at first sight, the idea of marrying a man of my stature, will appear somewhat ludicrous; but my charming friend, are you not already familiarized with the idea? did you not repeat to me more than once, that my society had become agreeable to you? Besides, if I

love you better than any other man could do; if, sensible of the obligations I shall be under . . . feeling my own inferiority, I strive to make you amends by the greatest attention and cares,—would you not be happier than with an imperious husband, who, not knowing how to value you, even ignorant of what love is, would make you sink under the yoke of marriage, and not taste its sweets?—Confess, my dearest friend, that this ridicule, which affrights you, decreases very much when true love is opposed to it, and that through a mutual love we shall soon see it vanish.—But, alas! where am I led by these arguments? This letter has a frightful length, and my heavy eyes bid me put an end to it.—Good night then to the charming Isalina!”

ISALINA TO JOUJOU.

“ October 24.

“ Indeed, my little friend, I know not how I shall answer you. I would not give you pain, yet I foresee what I have to say must needs afflict you.—You are very unreasonable Joujou: yet I own your arguments do much honour to your head and heart;—but did I ever tell you I had a mind to marry? I can positively assure you I never had the least thought of it; and why should I? I am so happy, so gay, so tranquil:—too young to find in the time past any subjects of affliction, and very little caring for the time to come, I enjoy the present in security. Be then afraid, lest you should trouble my happiness; and if you have any friendship for me, give up those projects which cause me uneasiness. Nor would I have you grieve, be courageous and patient, you will soon acknowledge your madness, and thank me for having spoke to you as I do. Meanwhile, be obliged to me for the kind sentiments which make me condescend to your whims, and answer letters I ought not to receive.—Adieu, Joujou; nevertheless I desire you to love me;

me; remember I bid you do it, so obey, and prove to me that you are not a little ungrateful creature.—ISALINA."

JOUJOU to ISALINA.

" November 1.

" O! my tender friend, all our projects are overthrown, our happiness has disappeared. My benefactress disapproves of my sentiments, I know not how she has discovered them; but yesterday she spoke of them to me, and I thought it proper to seize that opportunity of confessing the whole, and asking of her the favour which only can make me happy. At first she thought me joking; but in my extraordinary look, she soon saw I was but too much in earnest; my breath failed, my heart panted, my tears flowed abundantly. I thought I saw the moment in which her ladyship, moved at my situation, would no longer oppose my felicity. I fell at her feet, I besought her to yield to the motions of her beneficent heart. In vain she attempted to reason the case with me; I could not listen to her, I was in some measure out of my senses; upon which, with a serious look, she bade me go from her; but I could not leave her knees, and she was obliged to order a servant to take me away, and shut me up in my own apartment. Here have I been these two days; I see nobody. The servant who waits on me drops not a single word; I understand he has been forbidden; but by the help of a few ducats, which luckily I had in my pocket, I have engaged him to tell me what was become of you. He answers me, that no one sees you; yet he has faithfully promised that this letter shall reach you. Ah! dear friend, if you feel any trouble, forgive me; I am the innocent cause of it; this misfortune may retard, but cannot annihilate our happiness; my love for you will gather new strength by it. Answer me I pray; consider that I shall not, I cannot re-

ceive any comfort but from you ; that I would reject, and with indignation repel, such consolations as might be offered me for any one else ; only repeat that you approve of my sentiments, and, though I am confined and depressed, nobody can be happier than the enamoured—JOUJOU.”

ISALINA to JOUJOU.

“ November 4.

“ Till now, Joujou, I held your passion, your projects, and our little intrigue only as a mere joke. I had suffered it through my being truly a friend to you, because I saw it made you happy, and especially because I was persuaded that it could have no fatal consequence. But alas ! I perceive that I am mistaken, and severely punished for it. How could I suspect that such a little being as you would be so obstinate, so enterprising ? See to what I am exposed ; every one in the house talks of it ; they banter you, and the counter-blow falls upon me. Besides, I bore the most severe reproaches from her ladyship : it is in vain I tell her that I am not an accomplice in your conduct, she makes me answerable for your madness, as if I had inspired you with it. Am I not punished enough for having sympathised with you ? I always thought I loved you as a child ;—and who has ever seen that to love a child was deemed a crime ? Endeavour, then, to retrieve all this, you may do it through your docility and submission : do not expose me any more to new troubles, and therefore convince me, that you sincerely desire the tranquillity and happiness of your

ISALINA.”

JOUJOU to ISALINA.

“ November 5.

“ Your orders would have been sacred to me, dear Isalina, and, howsoever painful, I should have punctually executed them ; but I am told it is too late, and you have
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been cruelly sent back to your parents, whereby it is intended to separate us for ever. How could my benefactress determine on so violent an expedient? Yet by this she only frustrates her own designs, and rivets me to you with indissoluble ties. On finding in me so steady a resolution, she will undoubtedly alter her sentiments, and we shall yet be happy. But will you pardon me the vexations I have caused you? Perhaps they will be a motive to hate me: No, charming friend, you cannot be so cruel; you would not pass an irrevocable verdict of unhappiness on the poor Joujou."

ISALINA to JOUJOU.

" November 17.

" I ought to hate you, Sir, after all that you make me endure. You are the cause that the Countess Humieſka has withdrawn her bounty from me, and I have found myself under the afflicting necessity of repairing to my father's house. But that is not all. My mother loads me with reproaches; my sisters ridicule me. The whole town talk of this circumstance, and I cannot go any where, without being exposed to unpleasant and troublesome jokes. What then have I done to you, Joujou, to cause me such violent vexations? You would force every body to espouse your designs; but you will never accomplish it. Even were I inclined to live with you, my mother would by no means give her consent to an union she calls ridiculous and ill-matched: she positively said so, and I assured her, that I never thought of it. Then give up, I intreat you, those pretensions; thereby appease her ladyship, to whom you are under so many obligations; silence the public talk, and restore me to the former gaiety you have robbed me of; on this condition only I shall remain your friend

ISALINA."

JOUJOU

JOUJOU to ISALINA.

“ November 15.

“ O! dear Isalina, what do you require of me? Must you be terrified at the least obstacle? Is our common happiness of so trifling a nature as to give it up so easily? The public talk, and injuriously! Well! Are you ignorant of the little importance of such talk? The public speak! It is not the world, it is only the despicable part of it; only the wicked, who upon the least appearances, pass rash judgments, and anticipate events: the wise wait for them, and are silent. But of what moment can such considerations be to us? If we constantly love one another, if you have the courage of uniting your fate with mine, shall we not have every body on our side? Ah! dear friend, I fear nothing but your indifference and indecision. I am confined in my apartment as in a narrow prison, and have no other comfort, no other pleasure, than that of assuring my charming friend that I will always love her.—Joujou.”

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

“ November 20.

“ At length, charming friend, my captivity is at an end. I have lost all for your sake, and should you not remain for me, I would, yes, I would indeed, give up my life.

“ This morning one of the chief officers of the Countess came from her ladyship to tell me, that if I had not altered my resolution, I should go out of her house, never to return again. That is impossible, exclaimed I immediately; but on reflecting upon what conditions I could stay, I composed my mind, and coolly answered him I was ready to go out, and begged he would only tell my benefactress how much I was afflicted, to have incurred her displeasure;

displeasure; I besought her to pardon my resistance; and that I could never forget her bounty. Then I went out, and not without tears, left a house wherein I had been so long and kindly used, and as tenderly caressed as a dearly-beloved child. How grievous such a predicament is to a heart susceptible of gratitude! I seem to be ungrateful, I only am in love.

“ I knew not where to direct my steps, without money, without lodging, without resource. So dreadful was my situation! Love only supported my courage. It was he, undoubtedly, who inspired me with the thought of applying to Prince Casimir, his majesty’s brother. You know his affability, his mildness; you know, above all, the concern he always seemed to take in my affairs. My hopes have not been deceived: he knew all, except my departure, at which he was extremely surprized. “ Be not uneasy, Joujou,” said he to me, “ you shall not be destitute; I will provide for you, come and see me within a few days; I will speak of you to the king, you know he likes you, and I doubt not but he will grant you his protection.” The words re-animated my hopes. Yes, Isalina, if you will, we may be happy; but can I not see you, speak to you, let you hear a thousand times, that until his last breath, you shall be the only passion of the tender and faithful

Joujou?”

JOUJOU TO ISALINA.

“ November 25.

“ The prince, my charming friend, sent for me this morning. How shall I express the gratitude with which he has impressed my heart? He asked me whether I had a mind to enter into the Countess’s house, and he would employ all her friends to prevail with her, or if I was still resolved to marry my dear Isalina? Such were his words.

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I answered him, that I excessively grieved for having lost the kindness of my benefactress, but the conditions upon which I might regain it were too hard for my heart. Then obtain the mother's consent, replied this beneficent prince, and all the rest will go well.

"You see, my charming friend, you are thought to be the partner of my sentiments. I have been very cautious lest I should disclose that I have not yet obtained your consent; I had done amiss. Would you refuse it me, dear Isalina? Can you resolve to make me unhappy, who only aspires to promote your felicity? I shall be presented to the king, who has promised his illustrious brother to provide for me; thus, no farther inquietude for our subsistence. I am even permitted to hope for an annuity. Do then, my charming friend, bestow on me a ray of hope, and I will directly throw myself at your mother's feet. Will she not yield to my warm solicitations, especially on seeing me so illustriously protected? My supreme felicity depends on the sensibility of Isalina, and I expect it from her feeling heart; but let her remember, that the least indecision, the least delay, may cause all these glad hopes to vanish, and bring an everlasting unhappiness to her tender—Joujou."

ISALINA TO JOUJOU.

"November 26.

"I was right when I said this little tenacious Joujou would force every body to comply with his own wishes: my mother too takes his part. She had read your two last letters, and is overjoyed to see you protected by the Prince Chamberlain: her ambition is flattered by it, and she has declared to me, that I could not do better than to marry you. But Joujou, do you understand it is she who says so, not I. Besides, she adds disagreeable reflections; she says, that our having caused so much talk, might prevent
me

me from meeting with another establishment. But dear mother, can I not be contented without a husband? Is there no living but in that state? Therefore you may see my mother when you please; she will give you her consent, as soon as you shall be assured of an annuity. But believe me, Joujou, all this cannot alter my resolutions; though you exert yourself to have a contract of marriage, in due form, to have me sign it, to take me to church, and to marry me, you shall not cease, for all that, to be my little Joujou.—Adieu, my friend, somewhere else you might be punished for thus forcing my inclination; here you must be loved, since one cannot hate you.—ISALINA.”

“ I waited (adds our author) upon Isalina’s mother, whose consent I obtained. The Prince Chamberlain kept his word; he was so kind as to present me to his majesty, who approved of my marriage, and granted me an annuity of an hundred ducats. The Pope’s nuncio wanted to prevent it, as being disproportionate; but the king prevailed over this obstacle, and, some time after, the performance of the ceremony broke all the barriers that had been opposed to my felicity.”

Our author some time after his marriage undertook a second journey, and left Warsaw with his wife, and reached Cracow, on the evening of the 26th November, 1780; at which place they continued some time, and his wife was brought to bed of a pretty little girl, to the great joy of our little hero. Our little author and his family now visited Vienna, where they arrived on the 11th February, 1781. He met here with great encouragement by persons of the highest rank. Having quitted Vienna, he visited Presbourg, and then went to Lintz, where the Count de Thierheim, Governor of Low Austria, loaded him with kindnesses. “ He was so good (says Boruwlaſki,) as to

lend me for the concert his band of musicians : this band was composed of fifteen young men, all good performers, the eldest of whom was not seventeen. The audience being very thinly attended, occasioned this to be said : Little concert, little music, little players, and little receipt.—I ought not to omit an ingenious saying of the countess de Thierheim, then between six and seven. This fine young lady did not cease to look at me all the concert ; when it was over, she ran to her papa, and clinging round his neck, earnestly begged he would buy her this little man.—Well ! what would you do with him, said the count to her ; besides we have not an apartment for him. Let that be no obstacle, papa, replied she, I will keep him in mine, will take the utmost care of him, have the pleasure of dressing and adorning him, of loading him with caresses and dainties. In a word, they had much ado to persuade her that it was not possible to purchase the little man like a doll.” The next place he stopped at was Ratibon, and then went to Teschen, where he was sent for by the Prince de la Tour and Taxis, and much caressed. At Triersdorff he was noticed by his Serene Highness the Margrave of Anspach. At Strasburg he had the honour to give a concert to her Highness the Princess Christina, and on the 20th of March, 1782, Boruwlaski and his lady landed at Margate, and arrived in London a few days after. He brought with him a great number of recommendatory letters, and was visited and entertained by the first nobility. He was introduced the ensuing May to their Majesties by the Lady Countess of Egremont. The first concert he gave here was at Carlisle Street, Soho. He was particularly patronized by their Graces the Duke and Dutchess of Devonshire, who at their own expence provided him a comfortable lodging. The Dutchess having been informed his wife was ill, sent Dr. Walker to attend her. His first visit was very curious.

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The Dutchess had not informed him of the species of man whose wife she desired him to attend, and, on entering the apartment, he took Boruwlaski for a child. Being near his patient's bed, he was taken up with asking her questions, and Boruwlaski, on his part, with recommending the care of his wife, and as the tone of his voice was much above his stature, the Doctor was at a loss to conceive from whence came the speech that was directed to him. His wife perceiving this, told him who he was; but he hardly could be persuaded, either that it was a man, or that the voice he had heard could come from such a diminutive being.

Some days after, Boruwlaski was astonished at the entrance of a taylor, who saying he was sent by the Duke of Devonshire, presented him with some charming little habiliments, containing a complete suit, the principal of which was, a superb coat, embroidered with gems and silver, and the rest in proportion, besides a very handsome steel sword. On waiting upon his grace to return him thanks, he had the honour to be presented to Lady Spencer, who very kindly appointed a day when he might pay her his respects at her ladyship's house. Here he met with his royal highness the Prince of Wales, to whom Lady Spencer presented him. Her ladyship made him accept of a *rouleau* of thirty guineas, and the next day the prince sent him a very pretty little watch.

A short time after this wonderful dwarf arrived in London, there came also a stupendous giant. He was eight feet three or four inches high. Many persons were desirous of seeing them together; Boruwlaski's protectors, the Duke and Dutchess of Devonshire, in company with Lady Spencer, one day took him with them to the giant. Their surprise was equal, the giant remained some time speechless, viewing the dwarf with looks of astonishment; then stoop-

ing very low to present him his hand, which would have contained a dozen of the same size, he made a very polite compliment. Had a painter been present, the contrast of their figures might have suggested to him the idea of an interesting picture; for the dwarf's head was nearly upon a level with the giant's knee.

He next visited Bath, where he made a short stay, gave a breakfast, concerts, &c. In 1783 he set out for Ireland, and staid two months at Bristol and Chester. He gave a concert and ball to the Irish nobility in May, 1784. He returned to London in 1786, after about three years absence. Soon after his arrival he gave a grand concert at which were a great part of the nobility. About this time he was informed his grace the duke of Marlborough wished to have one of his shoes, and place it in the cabinet among other rarities. Boruwlaski immediately sent him a pair, to which he joined the only pair of boots he had, which he brought from Poland. His grace was so well pleased with this mark of attention, that the next day he sent him a 20l. bank note.

Boruwlaski having been at a considerable expence (he says it cost him, during his stay in England, about 500l. a year), and sometimes his concert but thinly attended, he found himself involved in difficulties, and without the bounty of the princess Lubomirska, who, hearing he was exposed to vexations from his creditors, enquired the amount of his debts, and nobly discharged them. His mind being now relieved from anxiety, he, at the request of his friends, set about writing his history, in which he has in a pleasing manner, described the principal events of his life; it was published in the year 1788. The prince of Wales, and a long list of the nobility appears in the list of subscribers. Boruwlaski took leave of his English friends, and set out for his native country, Poland, in the year 1792. An erroneous report having reached his own country, that he had laid out





Engraved by R. Cooper

FOSTER POWELL.

The Astonishing Pedestrian!



Printed and Sold by J. B. G. & Co. 10, St. James's Street, London.

six or seven thousand pounds in the funds, it was considered he wanted the king's favours no longer, and his annuity of 100 ducats was cut off: this circumstance, it was supposed, occasioned him to leave England, a nation whose generosity excited in our little hero the most sincere gratitude. The Count has returned again to England, and is now at Birmingham; but it is expected he will be in the metropolis in a short time. We have written to him on the subject, and shall be able in a future Number of our Work to give a statement of the exploits and adventures of this extraordinary person, during the last twelve years, from the time he left England last.

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*Account of MR. FORSTER POWELL, the celebrated English Pedestrian.*

**MR. F. POWELL** was born at Horsforth, near Leeds, in Yorkshire, 1734. He came to London and articulated himself to an attorney in the Temple, 1762. After the expiration of his clerkship, he remained with his uncle, Mr. Powell of the New Inn, and when he died, he engaged with a Mr. Stokes, and upon Mr. Stokes's decease with a Mr. Bingley, both of the same place.

Before his engagement with Stokes, he undertook (it is supposed for no wager), in the year 1764, to go fifty miles on the Bath road in seven hours, which he accomplished in the time, having gone the first ten miles in one hour, although encumbered with a great coat and leather breeches.

We are assured that he visited several parts of Switzerland and France, where he walked two hundred miles beyond Paris, and gained much praise there, though his fame, as a Pedestrian, was not as yet publicly established; but, in the year 1773, (it being the first time, as imagined, for a wager) he travelled on foot from London to York and back again

(a distance of 402 miles) in five days and eighteen hours.—Upon this he became notorious, and without seeing it, being remarkably modest, attracted the notice of all.

In November 1778, about the afternoon, our hero attempted to run two miles in ten minutes for a wager; he started from Lee Bridge, and lost it by only half a minute.—All his biographers have artfully omitted this his only failure—but we cannot see for what.—Our respect for this Pedestrian is equally as great as their's—nor do we conceive that his losing a wager once in a *running* match, can ever take away from his merit as a *walker*.

In 1786 he undertook to walk 100 miles on the Bath road in 24 hours—50 miles out and 50 miles in—he completed this journey three quarters of an hour before the time agreed upon.

In 1787, he undertook to walk from Canterbury to London Bridge and back again in 24 hours—the distance being 12 miles more than his former journey; and to the great astonishment of a thousand anxious spectators, who were waiting, he accomplished it.

The following year, 1788, he engaged to go his favourite journey from London to York, and back again, in six days, which he executed in five days and twenty hours. After this he did not undertake any journey till the year 1790, when he set off to walk from London to York and back again; he was allowed six days to do it, and accomplished it in five days and eighteen hours.

In 1792 he was determined to repeat his journey to York and back again, for the last time of his life, and convince the world that he could do it in a shorter time than ever he had, though now at the advanced age of 58 years. Accordingly he set out from Shoreditch Church to York Minster and back again in five days, fifteen hours, and one quarter.—On his return he was saluted with the loud huzzas of his astonished and anxious waiting spectators.

In

In this same year he walked, for a bet of twenty guineas, six miles in fifty-five minutes and a half on the Clapham road. A little after he went down to Brighton, and engaged to walk one mile and run another in fifteen minutes—he walked the mile in nine minutes and twenty seconds, and ran the other mile in five minutes and twenty-three seconds, by which he was seventeen seconds less than the time allowed him.

Before this, (the time is not ascertained) he undertook a journey to Canterbury, and by unfortunately mistaking the road from Blackheath to London, which considerably increased it, he unavoidably lost the wager—yet, he gained more money by this accident, than all the journeys he accomplished; for his friends feeling for the great disappointment he experienced, made a subscription, and collected for him a present.

Powell seems to have considered his wonderful agility as a circumstance from which he derived great glory. He despised wealth, and, notwithstanding his many opportunities of acquiring money, forty pounds was the largest sum he ever made, which was at the time of the above-mentioned subscription. He was content with a little for himself, and happy in being able to win much for others.

In person he was tall and thin, about five feet nine inches high—very strong downwards, well calculated for walking, and rather of a fallow complexion; in disposition he was mild and gentle, possessed of many valuable qualifications.

In diet he was somewhat particular, as he preferred light food—he abstained from liquor, but on his journeys made use of brandy, and when travelling, the delay he met with at the inns, for he had particular hours for taking refreshment; often chagrined him. No wonder indeed, if on this account he had frequently lost his wagers—he allowed him-

self

self but five hours rest, which took place from eleven o'clock at night.

In 1793, he was suddenly taken ill, and died April 15th about four o'clock Monday morning, at his apartments in New-Inn, in rather indigent circumstances—for notwithstanding his wonderful feats and the means he had of attaining wealth, poverty was the constant companion of his travels through life, even to the hour of his death.—The faculty attributed the cause of his sudden dissolution to the great exertions and over-exercise he must have experienced in his last journey to York—for being determined to complete it in less time than ever, he probably exceeded, and consequently forced his strength. In the afternoon of the 22d, his remains were brought for interment, according to his own dying request, to the burying-ground of St. Faith, being St. Paul's Church-Yard. The funeral was characteristically a *walking* one, from New Inn, through Fleet Street, and up Ludgate Hill. The followers were twenty on foot, in black gowns, and after them came three mourning coaches. The attendants were all men of respectability. The ceremony was conducted with much decency, and a very great concourse of people attended. He was buried nearly under the *only* tree in the church yard. He was aged fifty-nine.



*A Remarkable Instance of the POWER of CONSCIENCE. A real Fact, by Dr. Fordyce.*

**A** JEWELLER, a man of good character, and of considerable wealth, having occasion, in the way of his business, to travel some distance from the place of his abode, took along with him a servant, in order to take care of his portmanteau; he had taken with him some of his best jewels, and a large sum of money, to which his servant was likewise

wife privy; the master having occasion to dismount on the road, the servant watched his opportunity, took a pistol from his master's saddle, and shot him dead on the spot, then rifling him of his jewels and money, and hanging a large stone to his neck, he threw him into the nearest canal; with this booty he made off to a distant part of the country, where he had reason to believe that neither he nor his master were known; there he began to trade in a very low way at first, that his obscurity might screen him from observation, and in the course of a good many years seemed to rise, by the natural progress of business, into wealth and consideration, so that his good fortune appeared at once the effect and reward of his industry and virtue; of these he counterfeited the appearances so well, that he acquired great credit, married into a good family, and by laying out his hidden stores discreetly as he saw occasion, and joining to all an universal affability, he was admitted to a share of the government of the town, and rose from one post to another, until at length he was chosen chief magistrate: in this office he maintained a fair character, and continued to fill it with no small applause, both as governor and judge, until one day, as he sat on the bench with some of his brethren, a criminal was brought before them, who was accused of having murdered his master; the evidence came out full, the jury brought in their verdict that the prisoner was guilty, and the whole assembly waited the sentence of the president of the court, which, according to the rules of rotation, he happened to be that day: appearing during the trial in an unusual disorder and agitation of mind, his colour changed often; at length he rose from his seat, and coming down from the bench, placed himself just by the unfortunate man at the bar, to the no small astonishment of all present.—“You see before you,” said he (addressing himself to those who had sat on the bench with him) “a striking instance of the

just awards of heaven ; this day, after thirty years concealment, presents to you a greater criminal than the man just now found guilty." Hereupon he made an ample confession of his guilt, all its aggravations, particularly his ingratitude to a master, who had raised him from the very dust, and reposed a peculiar confidence in him ; he told them in what manner he had hitherto screened himself from public justice, and how he had evaded the observation of mankind by the specious mask he had wore ; " but now," added he, " no sooner did this unhappy prisoner appear before us, charged with the same crime, but the cruel circumstances of my guilt beset me with all their horrors, and I became so conscious of my crime, that I could not consent for my further concealment to pass sentence against an innocent fellow-creature, and have therefore for his safety accused myself, nor can I now feel any relief from the agonies of an awakened conscience, but by requiring that justice may forthwith be had against me, in the most public and solemn manner, for my atrocious sin ; therefore in the presence of the All-seeing Judge of my crime, and before this whole assembly, I plead guilty, and demand sentence may be passed against me, as the malefactor, and the life of this innocent man secured."—We may readily conceive the amazement of all the assembly, especially of his fellow judges : however, they proceeded, upon his confession, to pass sentence upon him, and he died with all the symptoms of a penitent sinner, an exemplary instance of the fatal effects of an exorbitant passion, and the tremendous ways of Providence in bringing to light one of the most cool and artful villains after such a long concealment.



*Description of the VOLCANO in the Island of ST. LUCIA.*

By M. CASSAN. From *New Transactions of the Swedish Academy of Sciences*, Vol. XI.

**M**ORE volcanoes are to be found in the West India islands than in any other part of the globe; and from the frequency of earthquakes, the abundance of hot springs, &c. in these islands, there is reason to conclude that those substances which are the cause of them still exist. On account of the great quantity of sulphur produced by the mountain where this crater is situated, the name of *la Souffriere* has been given to it and to the whole adjacent district. The mountain itself forms a part of a high ridge, which runs across the whole island from north-east to south-west, and encloses the crater like a basin, which can be reached without great difficulty. Those who visit it must put on thick-soled boots, as the earth, before they have got to the distance of two miles from the town, becomes exceedingly hot; and they must carry nothing of metal with them, and particularly silver, because their splendor is destroyed by the vapour. The sulphurised hydrogenous smell, which still increases, begins at the distance of little more than half a mile from the town. But however strong this smell may be, it seems not to be prejudicial, for the inhabitants in the neighbourhood enjoy the best health and attain to a considerable age. Though this district is mountainous and exposed to inundations, it is very fruitful; its sugar canes produce the richest sugar, as the districts around Etna and Vesuvius produce the most celebrated wine. The nearer you approach the crater, the more numerous you find the volcanic productions. You pass over various rivulets, the water of which has a sulphureous smell, and the scum seems to contain saline and ochery matter. You soon after arrive at the side of the mountain

which rises over the volcano towards the south-west. The road lies across the declivity of the mountain, which is exceedingly steep; so that the traveller on one side sees a terrible, almost perpendicular, abyss filled with abundance of vapour from boiling water by which he is surrounded, and as it were enveloped: on the other side he is enclosed by a high steep rock, yet one can ride without danger to that part of the mountain which encloses the volcano on the east side: but when you arrive there, you must procure a guide, and descend the mountain, by a very steep path, between low thick brush-wood. Throughout the whole way you must beat on both sides with a stick, in order to guard against being bit by snakes. Scarcely have you reached the bottom of the mountain when you find the heat of the atmosphere considerably increased, and the earth hot under the feet. The sulphureous vapours which here surround the body soon occasion an abundant perspiration, and the sulphurised hydrogenous smell is so powerful as to oblige many persons to return. The valley which encloses the volcano is about sixty fathoms long, fifty broad, and lies sixty fathoms higher than the level of the sea. It appears as if the volcano had long ago formed the hollow, in which it is situated, by splitting the mountain that surrounds the cavity, and by its eruption casting to a distance on one side those parts which covered the centre or focus. In looking down into the crater great care must be taken that the ground, which rings below the feet, does not sink, which would expose the legs to the danger of being burnt. For this reason it is usual to send a guide before to point out the places that are secure, especially when the weather is changeable; for people may then be speedily surrounded by vapours that almost obscure the sun. It has also been remarked, that during rain the vapours are more abundant and thicker than at other times. It is difficult to say with any certainty what is the nature of the soil

to be passed over in order to enter the crater: but it seems to consist of decomposed remains, or the scorizæ of different minerals, and particularly of pyrites, which however have changed their nature. As you advance farther the surface of the earth appears more and more covered with sulphur, and you find a number of small spiracles, from which arises a burning vapour, and which are covered on the sides with sublimed sulphur that has a very beautiful appearance. All these apertures may be considered as so many apparatuses for distillation, which nature has prepared, in order to purify the sulphur. If you strike your stick against the ground in this spot, it occasions a vent of that kind, through which the vapour issues with a strong hissing noise, and so hot that it raises the thermometer ten degrees above the boiling point. From these apertures, whether the work of nature or of art, it appears that the whole surrounding district below the surface is filled with boiling water; but this water does not proceed from rain or from springs in the crater, but, in all probability, from the mountain which rises above the volcano on the eastern side. This is the more credible, as the top of this mountain ends in a kind of funnel, which is of great width, and consists of very marshy ground. Several small streams issue from it also at different heights, and, after traversing the surface of the crater, pursue their way through the valley and discharge themselves into the sea. The water of all these streams is exceedingly warm, and is covered with a multitude of air bubbles, so that it sparkles like champagne. These bubbles exhibit all the phenomena of oxygen gas, which probably is disengaged from oxydes of various kinds with which it was combined in the earth. What among the phenomena of the crater excites most wonder are, twenty-two large basons, full of boiling water; some of which are twenty feet in diameter, and which may be considered as monstrous cauldrons placed over the most violent

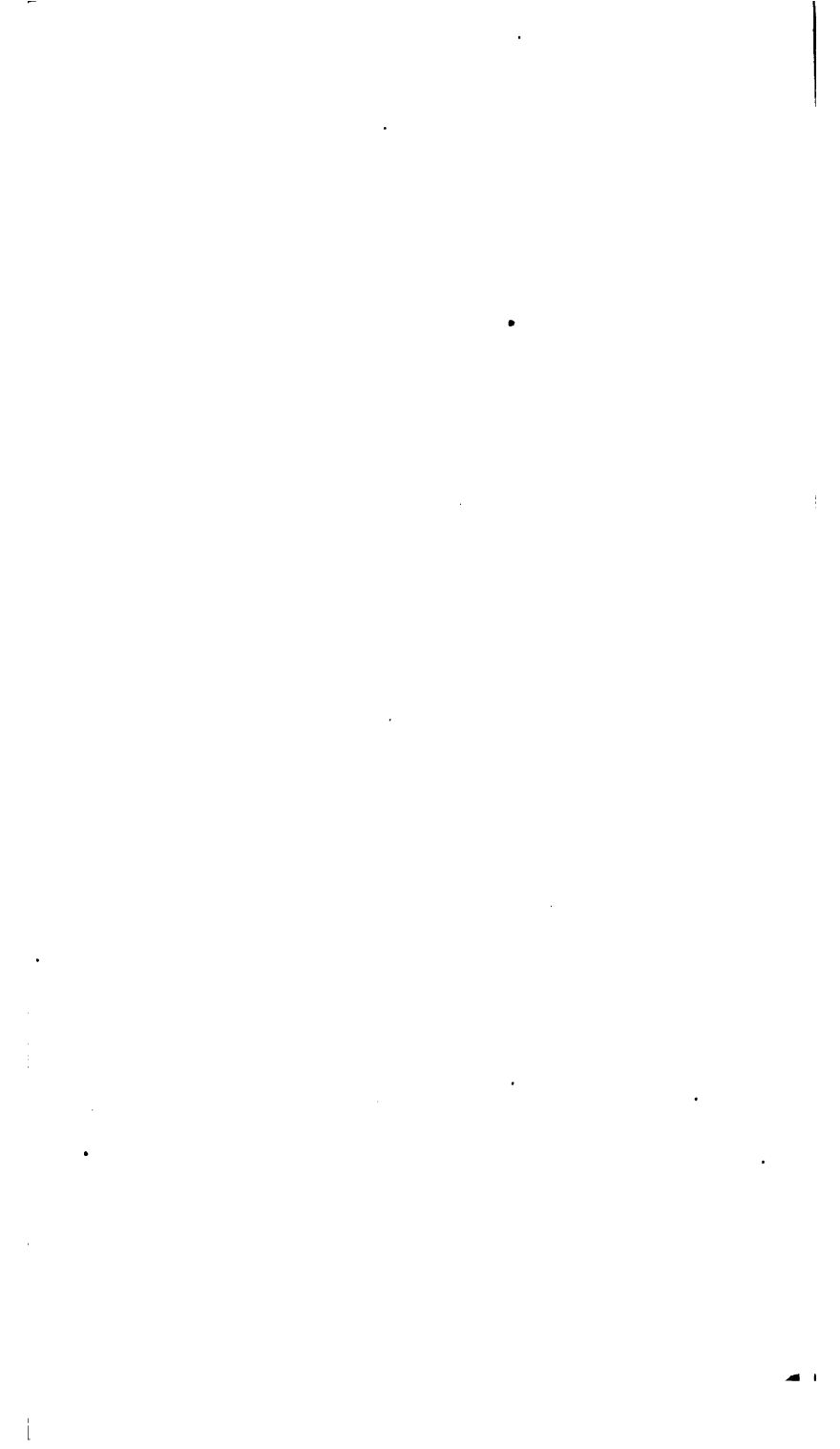
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lent fire. The ebullition is so strong that water bubbles of four or five feet in height are thrown up, which raise the thermometer far above the boiling point; but this however is the case only in those where the water is from one to two feet in depth, though the depth in general amounts to eight or ten feet. You may walk round the edge of them without any danger, and contemplate at leisure this astonishing quantity of boiling water. It is of a black colour, oily, covered with scum at the edges, and diffuses a vapour which obscures the atmosphere. From this ebullition and high state of the thermometer, we might be induced to believe, that there is a great quantity of heat in these basins; but if you put your hand into the water, you find the heat less than that of boiling water. The ebullition also may proceed only from the vapours which rise from the bottom of the excavations with so much strength that they give the water a boiling movement; and, in the like manner, the rising of the thermometer ought to be ascribed to these vapours also. The surface of the ground is of a pale yellow colour, and besprinkled with a multitude of small shining crystals, for the most part crystals of sulphur. The upper part of the crater, towards the south-east, rises exceedingly steep, and is covered with a great number of other crystals lying in a kind of earth, which is partly calcareous, and partly of an unctuous nature like clay. Among these crystals there are some shaped like flat needles, and which are real crystals of sulphat of lime. Others exhibit all the properties of sulphat of alumine; others appear like sulphat of iron, greatly supersaturated with the acid; and others like ferruginous pyrites covered with an efflorescence by the action of the atmosphere and water. The above-mentioned substances must be considered as the principal causes of the violent commotions which appear in this crater. They are supplied from a large stratum of pyrites; and from the violence of the combustion, we may conjecture that



ANN SIGGS.







ANNE SIGGS,

*of Swallow St. St. James's.*

A Remarkable Character, well known in most parts of London

*Published by R. S. Kirby, Paternoster Row. June 1844.*





that it may be very deep. It is probable also that this stratum is of considerable extent, for very hot springs are found at the distance of a mile both to the north and south of the volcano. Such substances accumulated in different parts of the earth, when accidentally combined with other substances, such as air, water, and inflammable bodies, produce earthquakes and other convulsions of nature. Though the internal re-action of these substances on one another seems to threaten danger, it however occasions no damage to the colony, because they have immediate communication with the atmosphere, and the whole soil is penetrated by water so that it cannot take fire: neither are coal, bitumen, or such inflammable bodies found in the neighbourhood.

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*Authentic Particulars of ANNE SIGGS, a singular Character,
well known in the Metropolis.*

THIS extraordinary woman, who generally appears in the city on a fine day between the hours of twelve and two, is the daughter of Moses Siggs, a breeches-maker for many years at Dorking, in Surry, and who was considered not only a man of industry but wonderful penetration. He was married at the early age of twenty-one, and his wife was also very young. They had three boys and five girls, and were for a while residents at Bletchingley near Godstone. Mr. Siggs measured six feet seven inches. Anne, the subject of our present consideration, was the second eldest, and being born in the month of May (21) Mr. Siggs, who was accounted exceedingly wise in the then prevailing art of astrology, declared she was doomed to encounter "a variety of wretchedness." Having been at some chalk-pits where he sat down to discourse with the neighbours, he unfortunately fell in, and was almost smothered with the ruins. He was providentially got up and survived this accident,

sident, by which he was much deformed sixteen years. He died when young, having been by the machinations of some envious relations deprived of much property. His daughter Anne was taken when a child into Captain Duvernet's family, where she remained till about twenty years of age, and probably would have staid there much longer, but that the indisposition of the family rendered a separation necessary. She afterwards resided at Mr. Bingley's in Birchington-lane, which consequently became her parish, and from which she now receives 2s. per week. She has been cruelly treated by some individuals, who have insinuated that she has been out of her senses, and have stimulated the mob to insult her. She has been knocked down, pinched, horse-whipped, &c. &c. which mal-treatment has brought on a decay of nature, and being exceedingly feeble, she is obliged to use crutches. She lives in Swallow-street, and has resided in that neighbourhood near 30 years. She has also lived in Upper John-street, Golden-square. She has been deprived of a considerable property through the chicanery of her enemies, and was necessitated to part with all her cloaths, &c. of which she had a good assortment; twice her goods were seized, and being incapable of using her needle (of which she was competent mistress) she now depends upon the liberality of the charitable, yet she never solicits alms. She always appears remarkably clean, sometimes in a white bed-gown, other times in a green spencer. Her handkerchief, apron, &c. exceedingly nice, though of inferior quality: these she continues to wash herself, and her apartment, which is a back garret, she keeps remarkably clean. She is truly pious, and has been complimented by the ministers of the parish for her devotion. Her chief luxuries are a cup of tea, and a pinch of snuff. She has written much upon religious subjects, but having nearly lost her sight, as well as her hearing, she is no longer able to use the pen.

One

One evening while at her tea in her arm-chair, she was visited by an owl, who perched himself at the window; then flew in and sat upon her shoulder. She kept the owl, and bought a large cage for him. Many told her he was the messenger of good news; others that it was an evil omen. Some one poisoned the owl, and necessity obliged her to part with the cage. She has had similar visits from doves, a magpie, &c. Before calamity had pressed her down, she measured five feet seven inches. She has a brother named William, a respectable breeches-maker at Dorking, who belongs to the Surry militia; also another living, who is a nightman at St. George's-fields. She has been exceedingly ill used by a sister, and was robbed the very day the Perreau's were executed. So great have been her sufferings, that her present existence may be deemed wonderful, and her resignation to the will of Providence, is not only remarkable but exemplary. Conspicuous characters are always the subjects of false reports; it is therefore no wonder that many idle tales should be circulated of Anne Siggs; but as the truth would not redound to the credit of her enemies, we believe these reports to have been industriously spread by those who have dreaded a discovery of facts.

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*The Remarkable History of PETER THE GREAT, the Civilizer  
of the Great Nation of RUSSIA.*

**P**ETER THE GREAT, Czar of Russia, who civilized that nation, and raised it from ignorance and barbarism to politeness, knowledge, and power, was a man of the most wonderful composition and character.

He was born the 30th of May 1672, and was son of the czar Alexis Michaelowits by a second wife. Alexis dying in 1672, Feodor, or Theodore, his eldest son by his first wife, succeeded to the throne, and died in 1682. Upon

his decease, Peter, though but ten years of age, was proclaimed czar, to the exclusion of John his elder brother, who was of a weak body, and a weaker mind. The Strelitzes, who were the established guard of the czars, as the Janisaries are of the grand seigniors, made an insurrection in favour of John; and this they did at the instigation of the princess Sophia, who, being own sister to John, hoped, perhaps, to be sole regent, since John was incapable of acting, but certainly to enjoy a greater share of authority under John, than if the power was lodged solely in her half-brother Peter. However, to put an end to this civil tumult, the matter was at last compromised; and it was agreed, that the two brothers should jointly share the imperial dignity. The Russian education was at that time, like the country, barbarous, so that Peter had no advantages; and further, the princess Sophia, who, with great parts, was a lady of great ambition and intrigue, took all imaginable pains, and used all the means she could, to stifle his natural desire of knowledge, to deprave and corrupt his mind, and to debase and enervate him with pleasures. Nevertheless, his abhorrence of pageantry, and love of military exercises, discovered itself in his tenderest years; and, to gratify this inclination, he formed a company of fifty men, commanded by foreign officers, and clothed and exercised after the German manner. He entered himself among them into the lowest post, and performed the duties of it with the utmost diligence. He ordered them entirely to forget that he was czar, and paid the utmost deference and submission to the commanding officers. He fed upon his pay only, and lay in a tent in the rear of his company. He was some time after raised to be a serjeant, but only as he was entitled to it by his merit; for he would have punished his soldiers, had they discovered the least partiality in his favour: and he never rose otherwise, than as a soldier of fortune.

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The Strelitzes looked upon all this no otherwise, than as the amusement of a young prince: But the czar, who saw they were too formidable and entirely in the interest of the princess Sophia, had secretly a design of crushing them; which he wisely thought could not be better effected, than by securing to himself a body of troops, more strictly disciplined, and on whose fidelity he could more rely.

At the same time, he had another project in view, of vast importance, and most difficult execution. The sight of a small Dutch vessel, which he had met with on a lake, where it lay useless and neglected, made a wonderful impression on his mind, and he conceived thoughts of forming a navy: a design, which probably then seemed next to impossible even to himself. His first care was to get Hollanders to build some small vessels at Moscow, and afterwards four frigates of four guns each on the lake of Pereslavl. He had already taught them to combat one another; and he passed two summers successively on board English or Dutch ships, which set out from Archangel, in order to instruct himself in naval affairs. In 1696, czar John died, and Peter was now sole master of the empire. He began his reign with the siege of Asoph, then in the hands of the Turks, but did not take it till 1697. He had already sent for Venetians, to build gallies on the river Don, which might shut up the mouth of that river, and prevent the Turks from relieving the place. This gave him a stronger idea than ever, of the importance and necessity of a naval force; yet he could have none but foreign ships, none at least but what he was obliged to employ foreigners in building. He was desirous of surmounting these disadvantages, but the affairs he projected were of too new and singular a nature to be so much as considered in his council: and indeed they were not proper to be communicated. He resolved therefore singly to manage the bold undertaking; with which view, in 1698, he sent an embassy to Hol-

land, and went himself incognito in the retinue. He entered himself in the India admiralty-office at Amsterdam, and caused himself to be enrolled in the list of ship-carpenters; and he worked in the yard with greater assiduity than any body there. His quality was known to all; and king William, who was then in Holland, paid him all the respect that was due to his uncommon qualities; and the czar's disguise freed him from that, which was merely ceremonious and troublesome. The czar wrought with such success, as in a little time to pass for a good carpenter; and afterwards studied the proportions of a ship. He then went into England; where, in four months, he made himself a complete master in the art of ship-building, by studying the principles of it mathematically, which he had no opportunity of learning in Holland.

During the czar's absence, the princess Sophia, being uneasy under her confinement, and meditating to regain that liberty which she had forfeited by former insurrections, found means to correspond with the Strelitzes, who were now quartered at a distance from Moscow, and to instigate them to a third rebellion in her favour. The news of this obliged him to hasten home: and, arriving at Moscow about the end of 1699, he executed terrible vengeance upon the ringleaders, yet took no other satisfaction of his sister the princess, than by continuing her confinement in the nunnery, and hanging up the priest, who had carried her letters, on a gallows before her window. He sent the chief nobility of his empire into foreign countries, to improve themselves in knowledge and learning: he opened his dominions, which till then had been shut up, and invited all strangers who were capable of instructing his subjects; and he gave the kindest reception to all land and sea officers, sailors, mathematicians, architects, miners, workers in metals, physicians, surgeons, and indeed operators and artificers of every kind, who would settle in his dominions.

It

It would be endless to enumerate all the various establishments, for which the Russians are indebted to this great emperor. He established, 1. A body of 100,000 foot, under as regular a discipline as any in Europe. 2. A navy of forty ships of the line, and 200 gallies. 3. Fortifications in all main towns, and an excellent civil government in the great cities, which before were as dangerous in the night, as the most unfrequented deserts. 4. An academy for naval affairs and navigation, where all the nobility are obliged to send some of their children. 5. Colleges at Moscow, Peterburg, and Kiof, for languages, polite literature, and mathematics; and schools in the villages, where the children of the peasants are taught to read and write. 6. A college of physicians, and a noble dispensatory at Moscow, which furnishes medicines to the great cities, and to the armies; whereas before, there was no physician but the czar's, and no apothecary in all his dominions. 7. Public lectures in anatomy, a word never heard before in Russia. Voltaire relates, that the czar had studied this branch of knowledge under Ruysch at Amsterdam; and made such improvements under this master, as to perform even chirurgical operations himself. He afterwards purchased the cabinet of that anatomist, which contained an immense collection of the most curious, instructive, and uncommon preparations. 8. An observatory, not only for the use of astronomers, but as a repository for natural curiosities. 9. A physic garden, to be stocked with plants, not only from all parts of Europe, but from Asia, Persia, and even the distant parts of China. 10. Printing-houses, where he abolished their old barbarous characters, which, through the great number of abbreviations, were almost become unintelligible. 11. Interpreters for all the languages of Europe; and likewise for the Latin, Greek, Turkish, Kalmuc, Mogul, and Chinese. 12. A royal library, composed of three very large ones, which he purchased in England, Holstein, and Germany.

These

These and many more were particular institutions and establishments; but the czar made general reformations, to which indeed the other were only subservient. He changed the architecture, which was ugly and deformed; or, to speak more properly, he first introduced that science into his dominions. He sent for a great number of pictures from Italy and France; and by this means instructed in the art of painting a people, who knew no more of it, than what they could collect from the wretched daubing of their saints' painters. He sent ships laden with merchandize to Genoa and Leghorn, which returned freighted with marble and statues. He introduced knowledge, where it was miserably wanted: and this knowledge enabled him to abolish facts, miracles, and saint-worship, in a good degree, at least. He took away part of the revenues of those churches and monastries which he thought too wealthy; and, leaving only what was necessary for their subsistence, added the overplus to his own demesnes. He made many judicious ecclesiastical canons, and ordered preaching in the Russian language. Lastly, he established a general liberty of conscience throughout his dominions; and, if we had no other proof of his civilized spirit, this would be sufficient. There is one more reformation, and perhaps as necessary and useful as any of the former, which he made even in his last illness, though it was exceedingly painful. When the senators and great personages, then about him, mentioned the various obligations which Russia lay under to him, for abolishing ignorance and barbarism, and introducing arts and sciences, he told them, that he had forgot to reform one of the most important points of all, viz. the mal-administration of justice, occasioned by the tedious and litigious chicanery of the lawyers; and signed an order from his bed, limiting the determination of all causes to eleven days, which was immediately sent to all the courts of his empire. This wonderful person



son died of the strangury, caused by an imposthume in the neck of his bladder, Jan. 28, 1725, aged 53. He had a son, who lived to be a man; but this son engaging with his mother, whom Peter had divorced in 1692, and other malcontents, in a conspiracy against his father in 1717, was condemned to die: however, he saved the executioners the trouble by dying a natural death. The czar composed several pieces upon naval affairs; and his name must be added to the short catalogue of sovereigns who have honoured the public with their writings. The czarina, his widow, and second wife, whom he nominated his successor, was, upon his death, immediately acknowledged empress of Russia by the several estates thereof.

The history of this lady is curious and extraordinary. She was born in Livonia, in 1684; and losing her parents, who were of low condition and poor, she became destitute. The parish clerk, who kept a school, took her into his house, and kept her; till Dr. Gluck, minister of Marienburg, happening to come to that village, eased the clerk of the girl, whom he liked exceedingly, and carried her home with him. Dr. Gluck treated her almost in the same manner as if she had been his own daughter; and not only had her taught spinning and sewing, but instructed her also himself in literature above her sex, and especially in the German language. At length a Livonian serjeant in the Swedish army, fell passionately in love with her, and she agreed to marry him: but the next day, the Russians made themselves master of Marienburg; and the general, casting his eyes accidentally on Catharine, and observing something very striking in her air and manner, took her then under his protection, and afterwards into his service. Some time after, she was advanced to be a house-keeper to prince Menzikoff, who was the general's patron; and there the czar seeing her, she made such an impression on him, that he married her. She was  
taken

taken at Marienburg, in 1702, and married to the czar in 1711: what became of her former husband, the serjeant, is not known. She was a woman of wonderful abilities and address, and in truth a very fit consort for such a one as Peter the Great, whom she rescued from ruin by her management, when he was surrounded by the Turks. The czar made her the partner of his councils and undertakings, as well as of his bed. He shewed the high opinion he had of her, by nominating her to succeed him: but she died in little more than two years after him. She had several daughters by the czar; the youngest of which, Elizabeth, after the heirs of the elder branches were extinct, ascended the throne in 1741. The lenity of this princess has been carried to a degree unparalleled in the history of any nation. She had promised, that during her reign nobody should be put to death; and she kept her word. She is the first sovereign that ever shewed this regard to the human species. Malefactors are now condemned to serve in the mines and other public works; a regulation, not less prudent than humane, since it renders their punishment of some advantage to the state.

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Account of a WORM in a HORSE'S EYE.

By F. HOBKINSON, Esq.

HAVING been myself a witness to the following curious fact, I thought it should not pass unrecorded, especially as it occurred in Philadelphia, under the immediate notice of the Philosophical Society.

A report prevailed last summer that a horse was to be seen which had a living serpent in one of his eyes. At first I disregarded this report, but numbers of my acquaintance who had been to see the horse, confirming the account, I had the curiosity to go myself, taking a friend along with me. The horse was kept in Arch-street and belonged to a free negro.

I examined the eye with all the attention in my power, being no ways disposed to credit the common report, but rather expecting to detect a fraud or vulgar prejudice; I was much surprized, however, to see a real living worm within the ball of the horse's eye. This worm was of a clear white colour, in size and appearance much like a piece of fine white bobbin; it seemed to be from two and a half, to three inches in length, which however, could not be duly ascertained, its whole length never appearing at one time, but only such a portion as could be seen through the iris, which was greatly dilated—The creature was in a constant lively vermicular motion; sometimes retiring so deep into the eye as to become totally invisible, and at other times approaching so near to the iris, as to become plainly and distinctly seen; at least so much of it as was within the field of the iris. I could not distinguish its head, neither end being perfectly exhibited whilst I viewed it, and indeed its motion was so brisk and constant, that so nice a scrutiny was not to be expected. The horse's eye was exceedingly inflamed, swollen, and running; I mean the muscles contiguous to the eye-ball, and seemed to give him great pain; so that it was with much difficulty the eye could be kept open for more than a few seconds at a time; and I was obliged to watch favourable moments for a distinct view of his tormentor. I believe the horse was quite blind in that eye, for it appeared as if all the humours were confounded together, and that the worm had the whole orb to range in, which, however, was not of a diameter sufficient for the worm to extend its full length, as far as I could discover. The humours of the eye were beginning to grow opaque like a chilled jelly, and became altogether so afterwards, as I was informed:

As this is a very uncommon circumstance, and may affect some philosophical doctrines, it is much to be lamented that the horse had not been purchased, and the eye dissected

for further examination. That there was a living, self-moving worm within the ball of the horse's eye free from all deception or mistake, I am most confident. How this worm got there, or if bred in so remarkable a place, where its parent came from, or how they contrived to deposit their semen or convey their egg into the eye of an horse, I leave for others to determine.

*The remarkable Character of Mrs. BRIDGET BENDISH,
grand-daughter of OLIVER CROMWELL.*

*Written by the Rev. Mr. SAMUEL SAY, a Dissenting Minister,
who was personally acquainted with her.*

THE character of Oliver Cromwell seems to be made up of so many inconsistencies, that I do not think any one is capable of drawing it justly, who was not personally and thoroughly acquainted with him, or, at least with his grand-daughter, Mrs. Bridget Bendish, the daughter of his son-in-law Ireton*; a lady, who, as in the features of her face, she exactly resembled the best picture of Oliver, which I have ever seen, and which is now at Rose-hall, in the possession of Sir Robert Rich, so she seems also as exactly to resemble him in the cast of her mind.

A person of great presence and majesty, heroic courage, and indefatigable industry: and, with something in her countenance and manner, that at once attracts and commands respect, the moment she appears in company; accustomed to turn her hands to the meanest offices, and even drudgeries of life†, among her workmen and labourers, from the earliest

* Commissary general Ireton married the Protector's eldest daughter, Bridget, who, after his death, married lieutenant general Fleetwood.

† Salt works.

morning to the decline of day; insensible to all the calls and necessities of nature, and in a habit and appearance beneath the meanest of them, and neither suiting her character or sex: and then immediately, after having eaten and drunk almost to excess, of whatever is before her, without choice or distinction, to throw herself down on the next couch or bed that offers, in the profoundest sleep; to rise from it with new life and vigour; to dress herself in all the riches, and grandeur of appearance, that her present circumstances, or the remains of better times, will allow her: and about the close of the evening, to ride in her chaise, or on her pad to a neighbouring port†, and there shine in conversation, and to receive the place and precedence in all company, as a lady, who once expected, at this time, to have been one of the first persons in Europe: to make innumerable visits of ceremony, business, or charity; and dispatch the greatest affairs with the utmost ease and address, appearing every where as the common friend, advocate, and patroness of all the poor, the oppressed, and the miserable in any kind; in whose cause she will receive no denial from the great and the rich; rather demanding than requesting them to perform their duty; and who is generally received and regarded, by those who know her best, as a person of great sincerity, piety, generosity, and even profusion of charity. And yet possessed of all these virtues, and possessed of them in a degree beyond the ordinary rate, a person (I am almost tempted to say) of no truth, justice, or common honesty; who never broke her promise in her life, and yet, on whose word no man can prudently depend, nor safely report the least circumstance after her.

Of great and most fervent devotions towards God, and love to her fellow-creatures, and fellow-christians; and yet

† Yarmouth.

there is scarce an instance of impiety, or cruelty, of which perhaps she is not capable.

Fawning, suspicious, mistrustful, and jealous, without end, of all her servants, and even of her friends; at the same time that she is ready to do them all the service that lies in her power; affecting all mankind generally, not according to the service they are able to do to her, but according to the service their necessities and miseries demand from her; to the relieving of which neither the wickedness of their characters, nor the injuries they may have done to herself in particular, are the least exception, but rather a peculiar recommendation.

Such are the extravagances that have long appeared to me in the character of this lady, whose friendship and resentment I have felt by turns for a course of many years acquaintance and intimacy; and yet, after all these blemishes and vices, which I must freely own in her, he would do her, in my opinion, the greatest injury, who should say, she was a great wicked woman*: for all that is great and good in her, seems to be owing to a true magnanimity of spirit, and a sincere desire to serve the interest of God and all mankind: and all that is otherwise, to wrong principles, early and strongly imbibed by a temperament of body (shall I call it?) or a turn of mind, to the last degree enthusiastic and visionary.

It is owing to this, that she never hears of any action of any person, but she immediately mingles with it her own sentiments and judgement of the person, and the action, in so lively a manner, that it is almost impossible for her to separate them after; which sentiments therefore, and judgement, she will relate thenceforwards with the same assurance that she relates the action itself.

* Alluding to lord Clarendon's character of Oliver Cromwell, viz. that "he was a great, wicked man."

If the questions the lawfulness and expediency of any great, hazardous, and doubtful undertaking, she pursues the method, which, as she says, her grandfather always employed with success; that is; she shuts herself up in her closet, till by fasting and prayer the vapours are raised, and the animal spirits wrought up to a peculiar ferment, by an over intensity and strain of thinking: and whatever portion of scripture comes into her head at such a season, which she apprehends to be suitable to the present occasion (and whatever comes in such circumstances, is sure to come with a power and evidence, which, to such a heated imagination, will appear to be divine and supernatural) thenceforward no intreaties and persuasions, no force of reason nor plainest evidence of the same scriptures alleged against it; no conviction of the impropriety, injustice, impiety, or almost impossibility of the thing can turn her from it; which creates in her a confidence and industry that generally attains its end, and hardens her in the same practice for ever. "She will trust a friend that never deceived her." This was the very answer she made me, when, upon her receiving a considerable legacy at the death of a noble relation, I urged her to suspend her usual acts of piety, generosity, and charity, upon such occasions, till she had been just to the demands of a poor woman, and had heard the cries of a family too long kept out of their money; for how, said I, if you should die, and leave such a debt undischarged, which no one will think himself obliged to pay, after the decease of a person from whom they have no expectations?" She assured me she would never die in any one's debt.—"But how is it possible you should be assured of that, who are for ever in debt to so many persons, and have so many other occasions for your money than discharging your debts, and are resolved to have so many as long as you live?" Her answer was as before mentioned.

[ADDED AFTER HER DEATH.]

And the event justified her conduct, if any thing could justify a conduct, which reason and revelation must condemn.

Such was this grand-daughter of Oliver, who inherited more of his constitution of body, and complexion of mind, than any other of his descendants and relations with whom I have happened to be acquainted. And I have had some acquaintance with many others of his grand-children; and have seen his son Richard*, and Richard's son Oliver†, who had something indeed of the spirit of his grandfather; but all his other distinguishing qualifications seemed vastly inferior to the lady, whose character I have sincerely represented as it has long appeared.

Remarkable History of the BEDOUINS, or WILD ARABS.

Including Curious Authentic Particulars of these wonderful wandering Tribes, their Manner of Living, Travelling, &c.

THE Bedouins, or Wild Arabs, are the inhabitants of the vast deserts which extend from the confines of Persia to Morocco. Though divided into independent communities or tribes, not unfrequently hostile to each other, they may still be considered as forming one nation. The resemblance of their language is a manifest token of this relationship. The

* Richard died at Chessunt in Hertfordshire, July 13, 1712; aged 86.

† William Cromwell, esq. son of this Oliver, and great grand-son of the protector died in Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, unmarried, on July 9, 1772, aged 85. Mr. Oliver Cromwell, an attorney of the Million Bank-office, and Mr. Thomas Cromwell, now in the East-Indies, sons of Mr. Thomas Cromwell, of Snow-hill, and the Protector's great grandsons, are the only survivors of his male line:

only difference that exists between them is, that the African tribes are of a less ancient origin, being posterior to the conquest of these countries by the khaliffs or successors of Mahomet; while the tribes of the desert of Arabia, properly so called, have descended by an uninterrupted succession from the remotest ages. To these the orientals are accustomed to appropriate the name of *Arabs*, as being the most ancient and purest race. The term *Bedaoui* is added as a synonymous expression, signifying, 'inhabitant of the desert.'

It is not without reason that the inhabitants of the desert boast of being the purest and best preserved race of all the Arab tribes: for never have they been conquered, nor have they mixed with any other people by making conquests; for those by which the general name of Arabs has been rendered famous really belong only to the tribes of the Hedjas and the Yemen. Those who dwelt in the interior of the country, never emigrated at the time of the revolution effected by Mahomet; or, if they did take any part in it, it was confined to a few individuals, detached by motives of ambition. Thus we find the prophet in his Koran continually styling the Arabs of the desert *rebels* and *infidels*; nor has so great a length of time produced any very considerable change. We may assert they have in every respect retained their primitive independence and simplicity.

The wandering life of these people arises from the very nature of their deserts. To paint to himself these dreary abodes, the reader must imagine a sky almost perpetually inflamed, and without clouds; immense and boundless plains, without houses, trees, rivalets, or hills, where the eye frequently meets nothing but an extensive and uniform horizon like the sea, though in some places the ground is uneven and stony. Almost invariably naked on every side, the earth presents nothing but a few wild plants thinly scattered,

tered, and thickets, whose solitude is rarely disturbed but by antelopes, hares, locusts, and rats. Such is the nature of nearly the whole country, which extends six hundred leagues in length and three hundred in breadth, and stretches from Aleppo to the Arabian sea, and from Egypt to the Persian gulph. It must not, however, be imagined, that the soil in so great an extent is every where the same; it varies considerably in different places. The variety in the qualities of the soil is productive of some minute differences in the condition of the Bedouins. For instance, in the more sterile countries, that is, those which produce but few plants, the tribes are feeble and very distant; which is the case in the desert of Suez, that of the Red Sea, and the interior of the great desert called the *Najd*. When the soil is more fruitful, as between Damascus and the Euphrates, the tribes are more numerous and less remote from each other; and, lastly, in the cultivable districts, such as the pachalics of Aleppo, the Hauran, and the neighbourhood of Gaza, the camps are frequent and contiguous. In the former instances, the Bedouins are purely pastors, and subsist only on the produce of their herds, and on a few dates and flesh meat, which they eat either fresh or dried in the sun and reduced to a powder. In the latter they sow some land, and add cheese, barley, and even rice, to their flesh and milk meats.

In those districts where the soil is stony and sandy, as in the Tih, the Hedjaz, and the *Najd*, the rains make the seeds of the wild plants shoot, and revive the thickets, ranunculi, wormwood, and kali. They cause marshes in the lower grounds, which produce reeds and grass; and the plain assumes a tolerable degree of verdure. This is the season of abundance both for the herds and their masters; but, on the return of the heats, every thing is parched up, and the earth, converted into a grey and fine dust, presents

presents nothing but dry stems as hard as wood, on which neither horses, oxen, nor even goats, can feed. In this state the desert would become uninhabitable, and must be totally abandoned, had not nature formed an animal no less hardy and frugal than the soil is sterile and ungrateful. No creature seems so peculiarly fitted to the climate in which it exists. Designing the camel to dwell in a country where he can find little nourishment, nature has been sparing of her materials in the whole of his formation. She has not bestowed on him the plump fleshiness of the ox, horse, or elephant; but, limiting herself to what is strictly necessary, she has given him a small head without ears at the end of a long neck without flesh. She has taken from his legs and thighs every muscle not immediately requisite for motion; and, in short, has bestowed on his withered body only the vessels and tendons necessary to connect its frame together. She has furnished him with a strong jaw, that he may grind the hardest aliments; but, lest he should consume too much, she has straitened his stomach, and obliged him to chew the cud. She has lined his foot with a lump of flesh, which sliding in the mud, and being no way adapted to climbing, fits him only for a dry, level, and sandy soil, like that of Arabia: she has evidently destined him likewise to slavery, by refusing him every sort of defence against his enemies. Destitute of the horns of the bull, the hoof of the horse, the tooth of the elephant, and the swiftness of the stag, how can the camel resist or avoid the attacks of the lion, the tiger, or even the wolf? To preserve the species, therefore, nature has concealed him in the depth of the vast deserts, where the want of vegetables can attract no game, and whence the want of game repels every voracious animal. Tyranny must have expelled man from the habitable parts of the earth before the camel could have lost his liberty. Become domestic, he

has rendered habitable the most barren soil the world contains. He alone supplies all his master's wants. The milk of the camel nourishes the family of the Arab under the various forms of curd, cheese, and butter; and they often feed upon his flesh. Slippers and harness are made of his skin, tents and clothing of his hair. Heavy burdens are transported by his means; and, when the earth denies forage to the horse, so valuable to the Bedouin, the she-camel supplies that deficiency by her milk, at no other cost, for so many advantages, than a few stalks of brambles or wormwood, and pounded date-kernels. So great is the importance of the camel to the desert, that, were it deprived of that useful animal, it must infallibly lose every inhabitant.

Such is the situation in which nature has placed the Bedouins, to make them of a race of men equally singular in their physical and moral character. This singularity is so striking, that even their neighbours the Syrians regard them as extraordinary beings: especially those tribes which dwell in the depths of the deserts, such as the Anaza, Kaibar, Tai, and others, which never approach the towns. When in the time of Shaik Daher, some of their horsemen came as far as Acre, they excited the same curiosity there as a visit from the savages of America would among us. Every body viewed with surprise these men, who were more diminutive, meagre, and swarthy, than any of the known Bedouins. Their withered legs were only composed of tendons, and had no calves. Their bellies seemed to cling to their backs, and their hair was frizzled almost as much as that of the negroes. They on the other hand were no less astonished at every thing they saw; they could neither conceive how the houses and minarets could stand erect, nor how men ventured to dwell beneath them, and always in the same spot; but, above all, they were in an ecstasy on beholding the sea, nor could they comprehend what that desert of water could

could be. We may imagine that the Arabs of the frontiers are not such novices; there are even several small tribes of them, who, living in the midst of the country, as in the valley of Bekaa, that of the Jordan, and in Palestine, approach nearer to the condition of the peasants; but these are despised by the others, who look upon them as bastard Arabs and Rayas, or slaves of the Turks.

In general, the Bedouins are small, meagre, and tawny, more so, however, in the heart of the desert, than on the frontiers of the cultivated country: but they are always of a darker hue than the neighbouring peasants. They also differ among themselves in the same camp; and M. Volney remarked, that the shaiks, that is the rich, and their attendants, were always taller and more corpulent than the common class. He has seen some of them above five feet five and six inches high; though in general they do not, he says, exceed five feet two inches. This difference can only be attributed to their food, with which the former are supplied more abundantly than the latter. And the effects of this are equally evident in the Arabian and Turkmen camels; for these latter, dwelling in countries rich in forage, are become a species more robust and fleshy than the former. It may likewise be affirmed, that the lower class of Bedouins live in a state of habitual wretchedness and famine. It will appear almost incredible to us, but it is an undoubted fact, that the quantity of food usually consumed by the greatest part of them does not exceed six ounces a day. This abstinence is most remarkable among the tribes of the Najd and the Hedjaz. Six or seven dates soaked in melted butter, a little sweet milk, or curds, serve a man a whole day; and he esteems himself happy when he can add a small quantity of coarse flour or a little ball of rice. Meat is reserved for the greatest festivals; and they never kill a kid but for a marriage or a funeral. A few wealthy and generous shaiks

alone can kill young camels, and eat baked rice with their victuals. In times of dearth, the vulgar, always half famished, do not disdain the most wretched kinds of food ; and eat locusts, rats, lizards, and serpents, broiled on briars. Hence are they such plunderers of the cultivated lands, and robbers on the high roads: hence also their delicate constitution and their diminutive and meagre bodies, which are rather active than vigorous.

From these facts we are by no means justified in concluding that the frugality of the Bedouins is a virtue purely of choice, or even of climate. The extreme heat in which they live unquestionably facilitates their abstinence, by destroying that activity which cold gives to the stomach. Their being habituated also to so sparing a diet, by hindering the dilatation of the stomach, becomes doubtless a means of their supporting such abstemiousness; but the chief and primary motive of this habit is with them, as with the rest of mankind, the necessity of the circumstances in which they are placed, whether from the nature of the soil, or that state of society in which they live.

It has been already remarked, that the Bedouin Arabs are divided into tribes, which constitute so many distinct nations. Each of these tribes appropriates to itself a tract of land forming its domain; in this they do not differ from cultivated nations, except that their territory requires a greater extent, in order to furnish subsistence for their herds throughout the year. Each tribe is collected in one or more camps, which are dispersed through the country, and which make a successive progress over the whole, in proportion as it is exhausted by the cattle; hence it is, that within a great extent a few spots only are inhabited, which vary from one day to another; but, as the entire space is necessary for the annual subsistence of the tribe, whoever encroaches on it is deemed a violator of property;

ty; this is with them the law of nations. If, therefore, a tribe, or any of its subjects, enter upon a foreign territory, they are treated as enemies and robbers, and a war ensues. Now, as all the tribes have affinities with each other by alliances of blood or conventions, leagues are formed, which render these wars more or less general. The manner of proceeding on such occasions is very simple. The offence made known, they mount their horses and seek the enemy; when they meet, they enter into a parley, and the matter is frequently made up; if not, they attack either in small bodies, or man to man. They encounter each other at full speed with fixed lances, which they sometimes dart, notwithstanding their length, at the flying enemy: the victory is rarely contested: it is decided by the first shock, and the vanquished take to flight full gallop over the naked plain of the desert. Night generally favours their escape from the conqueror. The tribe which has lost the battle strikes its tents, removes to a distance by forced marches, and seeks an asylum among its allies. The enemy, satisfied with their success, drive their herds farther on, and the fugitives soon after return to their former situation. But the slaughter made in these engagements frequently sows the seeds of perpetual dissension. The interest of the common safety has for ages established a law among them, which decrees that the blood of every man who is slain must be avenged on his murderer. This vengeance is called *tar*, or retaliation; and the right of exacting it devolves on the nearest of kin to the deceased. So nice are the Arabs on this point of honour, that, if any one neglects to seek his retaliation, he is disgraced for ever. He therefore watches every opportunity of revenge: if his enemy perishes from any other cause, still he is not satisfied, and his vengeance is directed against the nearest relation. These animosities are transmitted as

an inheritance from father to children, and never cease but by the extinction of one of the families, unless they agree to sacrifice the criminal, or *purchase the blood* for a stated price, in money or in flocks. Without this satisfaction, there is neither peace, nor truce, nor alliances, between them, nor sometimes even between whole tribes: *There is blood between us*, say they on every occasion; and this expression is an insurmountable barrier. Such accidents being necessarily numerous in a long course of time, the greater part of the tribes have ancient quarrels, and live in an habitual state of hostility; which, added to their way of life, renders the Bedouins a military people, though they have made no great progress in the art of war.

Their camps are formed in a kind of irregular circle, composed of a single row of tents, with greater or less intervals. These tents, made of goat's or camel's hair, are black or brown, in which they differ from those of the turkmen, which are white. They are stretched on three or four pickets, only five or six feet high, which gives them a very flat appearance; at a distance one of these camps seems only like a number of black spots; but the piercing eye of the Bedouin is not to be deceived. Each tent inhabited by a family is divided by a curtain into two apartments, one of which is appropriated to the women. The empty space within the large circle serves to hold their cattle every evening. They never have any intrenchments; their only advanced guards and patrols are dogs; their horses remain saddled and ready to mount on the first alarm; but, as there is neither order nor regularity, these camps, always easy to surprise, afford no defence in case of an attack: accidents, therefore, very frequently happen, and cattle are carried off every day; a species of marauding war in which the Arabs are very experienced.

The tribes which live in the vicinity of the Turks are
still

still more accustomed to attacks and alarms; for these strangers, arrogating to themselves, in right of conquest, the property of the whole country, treat the Arabs as rebel vassals, or as turbulent and dangerous enemies. On this principle, they never cease to wage secret or open war against them. The pachas study every occasion to harass them. Sometimes they contest with them a territory which they had let them, and at others demand a tribute which they never agreed to pay. Should a family of shaiks be divided by interest or ambition, they alternately succour each party, and conclude by the destruction of both. Frequently too they poison or assassinate those chiefs whose courage, or abilities they dread, though they should even be their allies. The Arabs, on their side, regarding the Turks as usurpers and treacherous enemies, watch every opportunity to do them injury. Unfortunately, their vengeance falls oftener on the innocent than on the guilty. The harmless peasant generally suffers for the offences of the soldier. On the slightest alarm, the Arabs cut their harvests, carry off their flocks, and intercept their communication and commerce. The peasant calls them thieves, and with reason; but the Bedouins claim the right of war, and perhaps they also are not in the wrong. However this may be, these depredations occasion a misunderstanding between the Bedouins and the inhabitants of the cultivated country, which renders them mutual enemies.

Such is the situation of the wandering Arabs. They are subject to great vicissitudes, according to the good or bad conduct of their chiefs. Sometimes a feeble tribe raises and aggrandizes itself, whilst another, which was powerful, falls into decay, or perhaps is entirely annihilated; not that all its members perish, but they incorporate themselves with some other; and this is the consequence of the internal constitution of the tribes. Each tribe

tribe is composed of one or more principal families, the members of which bear the title of *shaiks*, i. e. 'chiefs or lords.' These families have a great resemblance to the patricians of Rome, and the nobles of modern Europe. One of the shaiks has the supreme command over the others. He is the general of their little army; and sometimes assumes the title of *emir*, which signifies commander or prince. The more relations, children, and allies, he has, the greater are his strength and power. To these he adds particular adherents, whom he studiously attaches to him, by supplying all their wants. But, besides this, a number of small families, who, not being strong enough to live independent, stand in need of protection and alliances, range themselves under the banners of this chief. Such an union is called *kabila*, or 'tribe.' These tribes are distinguished from each other by the name of their respective chiefs, or by that of the ruling family; and, when they speak of any of the individuals who compose them, they call them the children of such a chief, though they may not be all really of his blood, and he himself may have been long since dead. Thus they say, *Beni Temin*, *Oulad Tai*, 'the children of Temin and of Tai.' This mode of expression is even applied, by metaphor, to the names of countries: the usual phrase for denoting its inhabitants being to call them the children of such a place. Thus the Arabs say, *Oulad Mafr*, the Egyptians; *Oulad Sham*, the Syrians: they would also say, *Oulad Frans*, the French; *Oulad Moskou*, the Russians; a remark which is not unimportant to ancient history.

The principal shaik in every tribe, defrays the charges of all who arrive at or leave the camp. He receives the visits of the allies, and of every person who has business with them. Adjoining to his tent is a large pavilion for the reception of all strangers and passengers. There are held
frequent

frequent assemblies of the shaiks and principal men, to determine on encampments and removals; on peace and war; on the differences with the Turkish governors and the villages; and the litigations and quarrels of individuals. To this crowd, which enters successively, he must give coffee, bread baked on the ashes, rice, and sometimes roasted kid or camel; in a word, he must keep open table; and it is the more important to him to be generous, as this generosity is closely connected with matters of the greatest consequence. On the exercise of this depend his credit and his power. The famished Arab ranks the liberality which feeds him before every virtue: nor is this prejudice without foundation; for experience has proved that covetous chiefs were never men of enlarged views: hence the proverb, as just as it is brief, *A close fist, a narrow heart*. To provide for these expences, the shaik has nothing but his herds, a few spots of cultivated ground, the profits of his plunder, and the tribute he levies on the high roads; the total of which is very inconsiderable. We must not, therefore, when we speak of the Bedouins, affix to the words *prince* and *lord* the ideas they usually convey; we should come nearer the truth by comparing them to substantial farmers in mountainous countries, whose simplicity they resemble in their dress as well as in their domestic life and manners. A shaik who has the command of 500 horse does not disdain to saddle and bridle his own, nor to give him barley and chopped straw. In his tent, his wife makes the coffee, kneads the dough, and superintends the dressing of the victuals. His daughters and kinswomen wash the linen, and go with pitchers on their heads and veils over their faces to draw water from the fountain. These manners agree precisely with the descriptions in Homer, and the history of Abraham in Genesis.

The simplicity, or perhaps more properly the poverty,
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of the lower class of the Bedouins, is proportionate to that of their chiefs. All the wealth of a family consists of moveables, of which the following is a pretty exact inventory: A few male and female camels; some goats and poultry; a mare and her bridle and saddle; a tent; a lance sixteen feet long; a crooked sabre; a rusty musket with a flint or matchlock; a pipe; a portable mill; a pot for cooking; a leathern bucket; a coffee roaster; a mat; some clothes; a mantle of black wool; and a few glass or silver rings, which the women wear upon their legs and arms. If none of these are wanting, their furniture is complete. But what the poor man stands most in need of, and what he takes most pleasure in, is his mare; for this animal is his principal support. With his mare the Bedouin makes his excursions against hostile tribes, or seeks plunder in the country and on the highways. The mare is preferred to the horse, because she is more docile, and yields milk, which on occasion satisfies the thirst and even the hunger of her master.

Thus confined to the most absolute necessities of life, the wandering Arabs have as little industry as their wants are few; all their arts consist in weaving their clumsy tents and in making mats and butter. Their whole commerce only extends to the exchanging camels, kids, stallions, and milk, for arms, clothing, a little rice or corn, and money, which they bury. They are totally ignorant of all science; and have not even the idea of astronomy, geometry, or medicine. They have not a single book; and nothing is so uncommon among the shaiks as to know how to read. All their literature consists in reciting tales and histories in the manner of the Arabian Nights Entertainments. They have a peculiar passion for such stories, and employ in them almost all their leisure, of which they have a great deal. The Bedouins have likewise their love-songs, which have
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more sentiment and nature in them than those of the Turks and inhabitants of the towns; doubtless because the former, whose manners are chaste, know what love is: while the latter, abandoned to debauchery, are acquainted only with enjoyment.

When we consider how much the condition of the Bedouins, especially in the depths of the desert, resembles in many respects that of the savages of America, we shall be inclined to wonder why they have not the same ferocity; and why their manners are so much more sociable and mild. The following reasons are proposed by M. Volney as the true solution of this difficulty. It seems at first view that America, being rich in pasturage, lakes, and forests, is more adapted to the pastoral mode of life, than to any other. But, if we consider that these forests, by affording an easy refuge to animals, protect them more surely from the power of man, we may conclude, that the savage has been induced to become a hunter instead of a shepherd, by the nature of the country. In this state, all his habits have concurred to give him a ferocity of character. The great fatigues of the chase have hardened his body; frequent and extreme hunger, followed by a sudden abundance of game, has rendered him voracious. The habit of shedding blood, and tearing his prey, has familiarised him to the sight of death and sufferings. Tormented by hunger, he becomes a cannibal, sanguinary, and atrocious; and his mind acquires all the insensibility of his body.

But the situation of the Arab is very different. Amid his vast naked plains, without water and without forests, he has not been able, for want of game or fish, to become either a hunter or a fisherman. The camel has determined him to a pastoral life, the manners of which have influenced his whole character. Finding at hand a light, but
 7 C 2 constant

constant and sufficient nourishment, he has acquired the habit of frugality. Content with his milk and his dates, he has not desired flesh: he has shed no blood; his hands are not accustomed to slaughter, nor his ears to the cries of suffering creatures; he has preserved a humane and sensible heart. No sooner did the savage shepherd become acquainted with the use of the horse, than his manner of life must considerably change. The facility of passing rapidly over extensive tracts of country, rendered him a wanderer. He was greedy from want, and became a robber from greediness; and such is in fact his present character. A plunderer, rather than a warrior, the Arab possesses no sanguinary courage; he attacks only to despoil; and, if he meets with resistance, never thinks a small booty is to be put in competition with his life. To irritate him you must shed his blood; in which case he is found to be as obstinate in his vengeance as he was cautious in avoiding danger. The Bedouins have often been reproached with this spirit of rapine; but, without wishing to defend it, we may observe that one circumstance has not been sufficiently attended to, which is, that it only takes place towards reputed enemies, and is consequently founded on the acknowledged laws of almost all nations. Among themselves they are remarkable for a good faith, a disinterestedness, a generosity, which would do honour to the most civilized people. What is there more noble than that right of asylum so respected among all the tribes? A stranger, nay even an enemy, touches the tent of the Bedouin, and from that instant his person becomes inviolable. It would be reckoned a disgraceful meanness, an indelible shame, to satisfy even a just vengeance at the expense of hospitality. Has the Bedouin consented to eat bread and salt with his guest, nothing in the world can induce him to betray him. The power of the Sultan himself would

would not be able to force a refugee from the protection of a tribe, but by its total extermination. The Bedouin, so rapacious without his camp, has no sooner set his foot within it, than he becomes liberal and generous. What little he possesses he is ever ready to divide. He has even the delicacy not to wait till it is asked: when he takes his repast, he affects to seat himself at the door of his tent, in order to invite the passengers; his generosity is so sincere, that he does not look upon it as a merit, but merely as a duty; and he therefore readily takes the same liberty with others. To observe the manner in which these Arabs conduct themselves towards each other, one would imagine that they possessed all their goods in common. Nevertheless they are no strangers to property; but it has none of that selfishness which the increase of the imaginary wants of luxury has given it among polished nations. Deprived of a multitude of enjoyments which nature has lavished upon other countries, they are less exposed to temptations which might corrupt and debase them. It is more difficult for their shaiks to form a faction to enslave and impoverish the body of the nation. Each individual, capable of supplying all his wants, is better able to preserve his character and independence; and private poverty becomes at once the foundation and bulwark of public liberty.

This liberty extends even to matters of religion. We observe a remarkable difference between the Arabs of the towns and those of the desert; since, while the former crouch under the double yoke of political and religious despotism, the latter live in a state of perfect freedom from both: it is true, that, on the frontiers of the Turks the Bedouins, from policy, preserve the appearance of Mahometanism; but so relaxed is their observance of its ceremonies, and so little fervour has their devotion, that they
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are generally considered as infidels, who have neither law nor prophets. They even make no difficulty in saying that the religion of Mahomet was not made for them: "For (add they) how shall we make ablutions who have no water? How can we bestow alms who are not rich? Why should we fast in the Ramadan, since the whole year with us is one continual fast? and what necessity is there for us to make the pilgrimage to Mecca, if God be present every where?" In short, every man acts and thinks as he pleases, and the most perfect toleration is established among them.

An Account of the celebrated MOUNT ST. MICHAEL, which was one of the STATE PRISONS, near Granville in France.

This affecting Narrative was transmitted by the Ingenious Mr. Wraxall, who, in the year 1775, made a Tour through the Western and Southern Provinces of France, to one of his Friends.—Mr. Wraxall observes, that though he wishes to prepare his Correspondent for a Recital, in which the Marvellous and Astonishing predominate, his Pen will ever be under the Guidance of Truth, and proceeds to his animated Description in these words:

DESIROUS to visit the celebrated Mount St. Michael, I hired two horses, and set out early in the morning. It is about twenty miles from Granville, and the road lying along the sea-shore renders it very pleasant. I got to Genet, a little village, before noon. From hence it is only a league to the Mount; but as it lies entirely across the sands, which are only passable at low tide, it becomes indispensably requisite to procure a guide. I did so, and arrived there at one in the afternoon.

This extraordinary rock, for it is no more, rises in the middle of the bay of Avranches. Nature has completely fortified

fortified one side by its craggy and almost perpendicular descent, which render it impracticable for courage or address, however consummate, to scale or mount it. The other parts are surrounded by walls fenced with semilunar towers in the Gothic manner; but sufficiently strong, superadded to the advantages of its situation, to despise all attack. At the foot of the mountain, begins a street or town, which winds round its base to a considerable height. Above are chambers where prisoners of State are kept, and other buildings intended for residence; and on the summit is erected the Abbey itself, occupying a prodigious space of ground, and of a strength and solidity equal to its enormous size; since it has stood all the storms of heaven, in this elevated and exposed situation, during many centuries.—I spent the whole afternoon in the different parts of this edifice; and as the Swiss who conducted me through them, found he could not gratify my curiosity too minutely, he left no apartment or chamber unseen.

The ‘Sale de Chevalerie,’ or Knight’s-hall, reminded me of that at Marienbourg in Polish Prussia. It is equally spacious; but more barbarous and rude, because some hundred years prior in its erection. Here the Knights of St. Michael used to meet in solemn convocation on important occasions. They were the defenders and guardians of this Mountain and Abbey, as those of the temple, and of St. John of Jerusalem, were to the Holy Sepulchre.—At one end is a painting of the Arch-angel, the patron of their order; and in this hall Louis the Eleventh first instituted, and invested with the insignia of knighthood the chevaliers of the cross of St. Michael.

We passed on through several lesser rooms into a long passage, on one side of which the Swiss opened a door, and through a narrow entrance, perfectly dark, he led me by a second door, into an apartment or dungeon—for it rather
merited

merited the latter than the former appellation—in the middle of which stood a cage. It was composed of prodigious wooden bars; and the wicket which admitted into it, was ten or twelve inches in thickness. I went into the inside:—The space it comprised was about twelve feet square, or fourteen: and it might be nearly twenty in height. This was the abode of many eminent victims in former ages, whose names and miseries are now obliterated and forgotten.

‘There was,’ said my conductor, ‘towards the latter end of the last century, a certain news-writer in Holland, who had presumed to print some very severe and sarcastic reflections on Madame de Maintenon and Louis the Fourteenth. Some months after he was induced, by a person sent expressly for that purpose, to make a tour into French Flanders. The instant he had quitted the Dutch territories, he was put under arrest, and immediately, by his majesty’s express command, conducted to this place. They shut him up in this cage. Here he lived upwards of three and twenty years; and here he at length expired. During the long nights of winter,’ continued the man, ‘no candle or fire was allowed him. He was not permitted to have any book. He saw no human face except the gaoler, who came once every day to present him, through a hole in the wicket, his little portion of bread and wine. No instrument was given him with which he could destroy himself; but he found means at length to draw out a nail from the wood, with which he cut or engraved, on the bars of his cage, certain fleurs de lis, and armorial bearings, which formed his only employment, and recreation. These I saw, and they are indeed very curiously performed, with so rude a tool.

As I stood within this dreadful engine, my heart sunk within me. I execrated the vengeance of the prince, who, for such a trespass, could inflict so disproportionate and tremendous a punishment. I thought the towers and pinna-
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cles of the Abbey seemed to shake, as conscious of the cruelty committed in their gloomy round; and I hastened out of this sad apartment, impressed with feelings of the deepest pity and indignation.

‘It is now fifteen years,’ said the Swiss, ‘since a gentleman terminated his days in that cage; it was before I came to reside here: But there is one instance within my memory. A person of rank was conducted here by command of the late king; he remained three years shut up in it. I fed him myself every day; but he was allowed books and candle to divert his misery; and at length the Abbot, touched with his deplorable calamities, requested and obtained the Royal pardon. He was set free, and is now alive in France.’

‘The subterranean chambers,’ added he, ‘in this mountain, are so numerous, that we know them not ourselves.—There are certain dungeons, called Oubliettes, into which they were accustomed anciently to let down malefactors guilty of very heinous crimes. They provided them with a loaf of bread and a bottle of wine; and then they were totally forgotten, and left to perish by hunger in the dark vaults of the rock. This punishment has not, however, been inflicted by any king in the last or present century.’

We continued our progress through the Abbey. He led me into a chamber, in one corner of which was a kind of window; between this and the wall of the building was a very deep space or hollow of near a hundred feet perpendicular, and at the bottom was another window opening to the sea. It is called ‘The hole of Montgomeri.’ The history of it is this: You will recollect, that, in the year 1559, Henry the Second, king of France, was unfortunately killed at a tournament by the count de Montgomeri. It was not intended on that nobleman’s part; and he was forced contrary to his inclination to push the lance against his sovereign, by his express command. He was a Hugo-

net, and having escaped the massacre of Paris and Coligni, made head against the Royal forces in Normandy, supported by our Elizabeth, with arms and money. Being driven from his fortresses in those parts, he retired to a rock called the 'Tombelaine.' This is another, similar to the 'Mont St. Michael,' only three quarters of a league distance from it, and nearly of equal dimensions. At that time there was a castle on it afterwards demolished, and of which now scarce any vestiges remain. From this fastness, only accessible at low tides, he continually made excursions, and annoyed the enemy, who never dared to attack him. He coined money, laid all the adjacent country under contribution, and rendered himself universally dreaded. Desirous, however, to surprise the 'Mont St. Michael,' he found means to engage one of the monks resident in the Abbey, who promised to give him the signal for his enterprise, by displaying a handkerchief. The treacherous monk, having made the signal, betrayed him, and armed all his associates, who waited Montgomeri's arrival.—The chieftain came attended by fifty chosen soldiers, desperate, and capable of any attempt. They crossed the sand, and, having placed their scaling ladders, mounted one by one. As they came to the top, they were dispatched each in turn, without noise. Montgomeri, who followed last, at length discovered the perfidy, and escaped only with two of his men, with whom he regained the 'Tombelaine.' They preserve with great care the ladders and grappling irons used on this occasion.—You perhaps remember the subsequent fate of the Count himself. He was at last besieged and taken prisoner by the marechal de Matignon, in 1574, at Domfront in Normandy: and Catharine of Medicis, who detested him for his having been, though innocently, the cause of her husband's death, ordered him to be immediately executed.

The church itself detained me a long time, and is matter
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of high curiosity. It rests on nine pillars of most enormous dimensions, which stand upon the solid rock. I did not measure them; but, as far as the gloominess of the place would admit, I apprehend that each of them must be five and twenty feet in circumference. Besides these, there are two others of much inferior size, which support the center of the church, over which is the tower. If the prodigious incumbent weight be considered, and the nature of its situation, nothing less massy could sustain the edifice. They seem as if designed to outlive the ravages of time, and the convulsions of Nature. But before we enter the church itself, I must inform you of the absurd and legendary cause, which first produced it.

In the reign of Childebert the Second, there was a bishop of Avranches, named St. Aubert. To this holy man the Archangel Michael, was pleased to appear one night, and ordered him to go to this rock, and there build him a church. St. Aubert, who seems to have been a little incredulous, treated it as a dream. The Angel came again, repeated his injunction, and not being obeyed the third time, he, by way of imprinting it on the bishop's memory, made a hole in his skull, by touching it with his thumb. In the treasury of the church I saw this curious skull. It is inclosed in a little shrine of gold, and a crystal, which opens over the orifice, admits the gratification of curiosity by the minutest examination of it. The hole is of a size and shape justly proportioned to the thumb supposed to have produced it, and, whether done with a knife, or by what means it is perforated, I cannot determine. The bishop, however, upon this sensible mark of the divine pleasure, delayed no longer, but repaired to the rock and constructed a small church, as he had been commanded—Here the fable ends; and true history supplying its place, informs us, that it was in 966, when Richard, the second duke of Normandy, be-

gan to build the Abbey. It was completed about the year 1070, under William the Conqueror, though many other additions were made by succeeding Abbots.

The treasury is crowded with relics innumerable, among which some few have a real and intrinsic value. 'There is a fine head of Charles the Sixth of France, cut in crystal, which drew my attention. They have got, Heaven knows by what means, an arm of Edward the Confessor; and they shewed me another of 'Saint Richard, king of England.'—Who this Saint and Prince was, I confess, is beyond my comprehension. I am sure they could not term Richard the First so, unless his crusade against Saladin wiped out all his sins and canonised him. Richard the Second has no better pretensions to sanctity. I do not mention him who fell at Bosworth: So that, who this Royal Saint was, I must leave you to divine. As to the monks, they know nothing about it; but they were positive he was a king of England.—An enormous golden cockle-shell weighing many pounds, given by Richard the second duke of Normandy, when he founded the Abbey, is worthy remark.

In the middle of the choir hangs a stone, which is said to have fallen on the head of Louis XI. at the siege of Besançon, without doing him the smallest injury. This, he conceived, and with reason, must have been owing to some wonderful divine interposition; for the stone weighs, I should suppose, at least ten pounds. Louis, though the greatest monster who ever filled a throne, was yet, at times, exceedingly pious:—He used to come very often in pilgrimage to Mont St. Michael; and he ordered this stone to be suspended by a chain in the choir, and left an annual sum in lands to maintain priests to say masses for his preservation from so imminent a danger.

The refectory, the cloisters, the cells of the monks, are all, (or rather they have been) very magnificent and spacious

cious; but a vast sum of money is wanted to put the whole in repair, and re-instate what the lapse of ages defaces and deforms.—One of the great towers is cracked and shaken. They have written repeatedly to the ministry, to know his majesty's pleasure respecting it, but no answer has been returned. It will probably tumble soon, and must necessarily, from its prodigious height and size, draw with it a considerable part of the adjoining edifices.

The late king sequestered the revenues of the Abbey, which are very ample. A prior is substituted instead of the abbot, and the number of religious reduced from thirty to fourteen. Perhaps a few years more may even extinguish these; and St. Michael himself, though composed of gold, be melted down to support the expence of a bal pare. It is at present considered rather as a prison of state, and will more probably be repaired on that account, than as an erection of piety. The apartments are, at this time, occupied by many illustrious captives, who have been sent here by 'Lettre de Cachet,' for crimes of State. They are detained in stricter or easier confinement, according to the royal mandate.—There are in one range of rooms eight, who eat at a round table together. They are allowed each a pint of wine; but neither knives or forks are ever given them, lest they should commit suicide, to escape the horrors of captivity. No person is permitted to enter that division where they live, or can hold any conversation with them. Four of these are sent here since the accession of his present majesty. There are others who have the liberty of going into every part of the Mount without restraint; but to profit of this permission they must be habited as priests, and of consequence universally known. To escape one would suppose impossible—but what cannot human subtlety effect, when pushed to despair? It is only sixteen days since a Monsieur de C——, who had been confined ten months, succeeded

ceeded in an attempt to set himself free. I was shewn the place from whence he let himself down by a rope: it is near a hundred feet perpendicular. He crossed the sands immediately, while the sea was low; and it is imagined he has embarked for Jersey, or England, as no intelligence has been received concerning him.

Some apartments are destined to a species of wretches yet more deplorable,—I mean, to lunatics. There are several of high rank. In the cloisters of the Abbey, a person accosted me in very polite terms. He was apparently about fifty years of age; his habit squalid; at his button-hole hung a cross of St. Michael, fantastically adorned with ribbons.—His face though brown and sickly, had a somewhat noble, commanding, and engaging; his hair of a deep black, mixed with grey, hung floating upon his shoulders; and over his whole person was an air of dignity in ruin. It was a Breton nobleman, who has been shut up here five and twenty years. He is insane, but harmless, and perfectly observant of all the forms in cultivated life.—None but persons of quality are ever sent here on this account.

At the foot of the mountain, close to the waves is a very fine well of fresh water; but as this might and would be undoubtedly possessed by an enemy, in case of a siege, they have contrived to hollow into the solid rock cisterns proportionate to every other part of the building, and capable of containing many hundred tuns of water; they say more than twelve hundred. Indeed, to besiege it would be madness: A hundred men might defend it against ten thousand assailants, and any number of vessels; nor could it be, if taken, converted to any sort of use.

The town itself is almost as curious as any other part of the Mount. I doubt not that there are many houses in it five or six hundred years old; and I did not see one which seemed to be built since Louis the Eleventh's time. The whole





DOROTHY PENTREATH of MOUSEHOLE in CORNWALL.
the last Person who could converse in the Cornish language.

whole number of persons resident in the Abbey, and in the town, does not exceed a hundred and eighty, in time of peace. A militia, composed of the Bourgeoise, mount guard to prevent any of the prisoners from escaping. In time of war there are five hundred soldiers commonly in garrison; and they assured me so vast and numerous are the chambers in different parts, that thirteen thousand might be disposed of without any sort of inconvenience.

They sell little legendary books in the town: I have bought them all, in hopes to find some historical anecdotes or traditions respecting the place, and the various important events or sieges it has undergone;—but alas! this was a vain attempt. They are all stuffed with miracles, and absurdities too ridiculous to repeat; and St. Michael and St. Aubert are the only heroes who make any figure in the annals of Monckery.—I would most willingly have inspected the archives which are laid up in the Abbey; but this is not permitted. It must be a very curious research, since it is probable every king of England, from the Conqueror to Henry the Third, had been many times here from motives of devotion or curiosity.

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*An Account of DOROTHY PENTRAETH, of Mousehole, in the Parish of Paul, in Cornwall, supposed to be the last Person who could converse in that curious and ancient Tongue. Including Observations on the Decay and Cessation of the Cornish Language.*

*To the EDITOR of the WONDERFUL MUSEUM.*

Sir,

WHEN I was in Cornwall last summer, curiosity induced me to make some enquiries about Dolly Pentraeth, of Mousehole; who has been already introduced to the lovers of antiquity, by a gentleman justly celebrated for his skill and sagacity in the study of antiquities, and his ardent pursuit

suit of natural knowledge, as well as for his eminence in the line of his profession. The honourable Daines Barrington deemed this very singular female worthy of his particular attention, as having been the last person in the county who could converse freely in the old Cornish Dialect. The account which he gives of her in the *Archæologia* is as just and accurate, as it is curious: I shall, therefore, beg leave to subjoin it. But what I wish, at present, particularly to recommend to your attention, and that of the public, as an accompaniment to Judge Barrington's description, is a very exact and striking likeness of the aforesaid venerable matron, who died in the year 1777\*, and was herself a curious relique of antiquity, and as much an original in her person and manners, as she was remarkable for being (if I may so express myself) the *Omega* of the Cornish Language.

Dolly Pentraeth probably spoke it with more fluency than any person now living; and the Cornish, exclusive of the strong affinity which it bears to the language of Wales, and of the Province of Bretagne, (having, no doubt, been originally the same) may now be properly stiled a *Dead Language*.

The original drawing of Dolly Pentraeth, executed by an ingenious young man at Penzance, I was favoured with by a gentleman of very respectable character and fortune, who resides there. The ornaments about it represent different implements made use of in the fishery, emblematical of the good Lady's occupation.

If you think this curiosity deserving of a place in your

\* The worthy Vicar of Paul's parish was so obliging as to examine the Register for me; according to which it appears that Dorothy Jeffery, alias Pentraeth, (her maiden name) was buried Dec. 27, 1777.

entertaining work, it is very much at your service; and I doubt not will be very acceptable to many, besides,

Sir,

Your very humble servant,

ALPHABETA.

Leland made a tour through Cornwall in the reign of Henry VIII, and yet takes no notice of their speaking a language which he did not understand. My inference from his silence is, that it then prevailed almost universally, just as an English traveller into Wales would not now, in an account of his journey, inform his correspondent that Welch was chiefly used in that Principality.

Carew published his Survey of Cornwall in 1602, and observes, that the Cornish was going very fast into disuse, 'being driven into the uttermost skirts of the shire.'

Norden's History of Cornwall, supposed to be compiled about the year 1610, informs us, 'that the Cornish Language was chiefly used in the western hundreds of the county, particularly Penrith and Kerrier; and yet (which is to be marvelled) though the husband and wife, parents and children, master and servants, do mutually communicate in their native language, yet there is none of them, in a manner, but is able to converse with a stranger in the English Tongue, unless it be some obscure people, who seldom confer with the better sort; but it seemeth, however, that in a few years the Cornish Language will be by little and little abandoned.'

In 1662, Cornwall was visited by that great Naturalist, Mr. Ray, who paid very particular attention to the language spoken in different parts of England as appears by his having collected their peculiar words and proverbs.

We find accordingly in his Itineraries, (published by Mr. Scott, F. A. S.) 'that Mr. Dickan Gwyn was considered as the only person who could then write in the Cornish Lan-

guage, and who lived in one of the most western parishes called St Just, when there were but what could speak English; whilst few of the children also could speak Cornish, so that the language would soon be entirely lost.'

The last printed account, which I have happened to meet with in relation to the decay of the Cornish Tongue, is in a letter dated March 10, 1701, from Lhwyd to Rowland (author of the *Mona Antiqua*) who observes, that it was then only retained in five or six villages towards the Land's-End.

Thus far with regard to written testimonies: I now proceed to oral.

My brother, Captain Barrington, brought a French East India ship into Mount's-bay, in the year 1746, who told me, that, when he sailed thence on a cruize towards the French coast, he took with him from that part of Cornwall a seaman who spoke the Cornish Language, and who was understood by some French seamen of the coast of Bretagne, with whom he happened to converse.

I myself made a complete tour of Cornwall in 1768; and, recollecting what I had thus heard from my brother, I mentioned to several persons of that county, that I did not think it impossible I might meet with some remains of the language, but they considered it as entirely lost.

I set out from Penzance, however, with the landlord of the principal inn for my guide, towards the Sannan, or most western point; and, when I approached the village, I said, that there must probably be some remains of the language in those parts, if any where, as the village was in the road to no place whatsoever, and the only ale-house announced itself to be *the last in England*. My guide, however, told me that I should be disappointed; but that, if I would ride ten miles about in my return to Penzance, he would carry me to a village called Mousehole, on the western side of  
Mount's-

Mount's-bay, where there was an old woman called Dolly Pentraeth, who could speak Cornish very fluently. Whilst we were travelling together towards Mousehole, I enquired how he knew that this woman spoke Cornish, when he informed me that he frequently went from Penzance to Mousehole to buy fish, which were sold by her; and that, when he did not offer a price that was satisfactory, she grumbled to some other old women in an unknown tongue, which he concluded therefore to be Cornish.

When we reached Mousehole, I desired to be introduced as a person who had laid a wager that there was no one who could converse in Cornish; upon which Dolly Pentraeth spoke in an angry tone of voice for two or three minutes, in a language which sounded very much like Welsh.

The hut in which she lived was in a very narrow lane, opposite to two rather better cottages, at the doors of which two other women stood, who were advanced in years, and who I observed were laughing at what Dolly Pentraeth said to me.

Upon this, I asked them whether she had not been abusing me; to which they answered, yes, very heartily, and because I had supposed she could not speak Cornish. I then said, that they must be able to talk the language; to which they answered, that they could not speak it readily; but that they understood it, being only ten or twelve years younger than Dolly Pentraeth. I continued nine or ten days in Cornwall after this; but found that my friends, whom I had left to the eastward, continued as incredulous almost as they were before, about these last remains of the Cornish Language, because, (among other reasons) Dr. Borlase had supposed, in his *Natural History* of the county, that it had entirely ceased to be spoken. It was also urged, that, as he lived within four or five miles of the old woman at Mousehole, he consequently must have heard of so singular

lar a thing as her continuing to use the vernacular tongue.

‘ I had scarcely said or thought any thing more about this matter, till last summer\*, having mentioned it to some Cornish people, I found that they could not credit that any person had existed within these five years who could speak their native language; and therefore, though I imagined there was but a small chance of Dolly Pentraeth’s continuing to live, yet I wrote to the President, then in Devonshire, to desire that he would make some enquiry with regard to her; and he was so obliging as to procure me information from a gentleman whose house is within three miles of Mousehole; a considerable part of whose letter I shall subjoin.

‘ Dolly Pentraeth is short of stature, and bends very much with old-age, being in her 87th year, so lusty, however, as to walk hither (viz. to Castle Horneck) above three miles, in bad weather, in the morning, and back again. She is somewhat deaf, but her intellects seemingly not impaired; has a memory so good, that she remembers perfectly well, that about four or five years ago at Mousehole (where she lives) she was sent for to a gentleman, who, being a stranger, had a curiosity to hear the Cornish Language, which she was famed for retaining and speaking fluently; and that the inn-keeper, where the gentleman came from, attended him.

[This gentleman was myself; however I did not presume to *send* for, but *waited* upon her.]

‘ She does indeed at this time speak Cornish as readily as others do English, being bred up from a child to know no other language; nor could she (if we may believe her) talk a word of English before she was past twenty years of age; that, her father being a fisherman, she was sent with fish

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\* This account was written in 1773, and printed in the *Archæologia*, vol. III.



to Penzance at twelve years old, and sold them in the Cornish Language, which the inhabitants in general (even the gentry) did then well understand. She is positive, however, that there is neither in Mousehole, or in any other part of the county, any person who knows any thing of it, or at least can converse in it. She is poor, and maintained partly by fortune-telling and gabbling of Cornish.

Mr. Barrington, in a subsequent paper, printed in the *Archæologia*, vol. V, and dated March 20, 1776, observes, that Dolly Pentraeth was then alive, that she was supposed to be ninety years of age, was grown excessively deaf, and was conceived by some to be the only person then existing who could speak Cornish.

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*Wonderful Instances of Great Resemblance of some Men in
Face, Features, and other Respects.*

THE skilful hand of the great Artificer has formed the faces of men with such infinite variety, that amongst the many millions who inhabit this Globe of Earth, there are scarce two to be found, in all respects, so much alike, as not to be distinguished from each other. Were it not for this, together with the surprizing difference in men's voices and hand-writing, the world would have been one continued scene of mischief and confusion. There could have been no security to our persons, no certainty of our possessions, no justice between man and man, no distinction between friends and foes, between male and female; the thief and the murderer would have been concealed in a croud, and incest and adultery committed without discovery or restraint. Those few instances of the very near resemblance of persons are considered great rarities. We select the following as the most curious.

TORANIUS, a Merchant who dealt in slaves, sold to Mark Antony two very beautiful boys for twins, they being extremely

tremely like one another, though the one was born in Asia and the other in Europe. The fraud, however, was soon discovered, by their speaking each a different language; on which Antony was very angry with Toranius, telling him he had paid a great price for the boys, as twins, and they were not such: but the cunning merchant soon pacified him, by representing the boys as greater rarities on that very account; for, said he, it is not so much to be wondered at, that two children who lie in the same womb should resemble one another, as that two should be found born of different parents, and in different countries, so exactly like each other in all respects, as these boys. This appeased Antony, and made him contented with his bargain.

PLINY.

POLYSTRATUS and HIPPOCLIDES were both born on the same day, both philosophers of the sect of Epicurus, both schoolfellows, both lived on the same estate, both arrived to a great age, and both died at the instant.

VAL. MAX.

ARTEMON was so like ANTIOCHUS, king of Syria, that by the contrivance of queen Laodice, he personated that prince, who had been murdered, and obtained the Kingdom.

VAL MAX.

There were two twin-brothers at Mechlin, the sons of Petrus Apostolius, who were both very handsome, and so extremely alike, not only strangers, but the mother herself, often mistook one for the other; and the father, by a pleasing error, would sometimes call Peter instead of John, and John instead of Peter.

LUD. VIVES.

MEDARDUS and GERARDUS, two Frenchmen, were twins, and both of them on the same day were made bishops. As one and the same day gave them birth, so on one and the same day they both departed this life.

FOLGOSUS KORNMANUS.

There

There were two brothers at Riez, in Provence, who were not only perfectly like one another as to their persons, but if one of them was sick, the other was so too; if one had a pain in his head, the other soon felt the like; and if one of them was asleep or sad, the other could not keep open his eyes to be merry.

GAFFAR.

NICHOLAS and ANDREW TREMAIN, sons of Thomas Tremain, of Devonshire, Esq. were twins, and all their features and lineaments so exactly alike, that they could not be distinguished but by their different dresses; which they would privately change, for the sake of diversion, thereby occasioning many pleasant mistakes. They felt the same pain, though at a distance; and without any intelligence given, they had both an inclination to sleep, eat, drink, &c. at the very same time, as the father often observed and attested. Being both soldiers (the one a Captain, the other a private man) they were both killed in France, in the year 1564.

FULLER'S WORTHIES.

MARTIN GUERRE and ARNOLD TILLY were so exceedingly alike one another, that when the former was abroad in the wars, Tilly imposed upon his wife by the near resemblance of his person, and was admitted to her bed. Nay, what is more strange, he lived with this woman as her husband for several years together, without her discovering the imposture.

MERSENNUS.

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### COLOSSUS of RHODES.

THIS gigantic brazen statue, being the sign by which our Museum is distinguished, we have, agreeable to the wish of many of our subscribers, of having it preserved, and bound up with the work, given an engraved representation of it as

Frontispiece

Frontispiece to the second Volume. The particulars of this wonderful image we have given in our first Volume, page 544, to which we refer our readers. But we add the following extract from Howard's New Encyclopedia, or Dictionary of Arts and Sciences. This huge brazen statue of Apollo was 70 cubits high, that is, 105 feet. There were few people who could fathom the thumb of it. Some critics are of opinion that the Colossus of Rhodes, gave its own name to the people amongst whom it stood: hence they suppose the Colossians to whom St. Paul wrote his epistle, are in reality the inhabitants of Rhodes.

When the island became possessed by the Saracens, A. D. 672, the statue was found prostrate on the ground, they sold it to a jew, who loaded nine hundred camels with the brass, which amounted to 720,000 pounds weight.

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Remarkable Instances of PERSONS RETURNING TO LIFE, after having been supposed dead.

IT is presumed that no one ever returned to life without a miracle, after an actual separation of soul and body; but we have a great variety of instances of persons supposed to be dead, who have revived in their coffins, in their graves; under the hands of the surgeons, and after they have remained apparently dead, under water for a considerable time. The following instances we have selected as the most remarkable from various undoubted authorities.

As Aesclepiades, a celebrated physician, was coming from his country seat, he met a large company conveying a corpse to the grave, and out of curiosity asked the name of the person, but receiving no answer, he stepped nearer to examine it*, and found it rubbed over with perfumes, and the

* Here it should be observed, that the biers of the antients, in which the dead were carried to the place of interment,

the mouth moistened with a precious balm, according to the custom of the Greeks. Then carefully feeling every part, and discovering some signs of life, he affirmed that the person was not dead; to which some of the company listened, whilst others ridiculed the physician, and slighted his profession. However, he prevailed so far at last, that the deceased was carried back to his own house, where, by the efficacy of proper remedies, he was soon restored to life.

Apuleius Celsus.

In the year 1571, the wife of one of the magistrates of Cologne, who was thought to have fallen a victim to a pestilence which then raged in that city, was interred with a valuable ring on one of her fingers. The next night the grave-digger opened the grave, with an intent to take it off, but was seized, we may imagine, with no small consternation, when the supposed dead woman squeezed his hand, and laid fast hold of him, in order to get out of her coffin. The villain, however, made his escape, and the lady disengaged herself as well as she could, went home, and knocked at her own door, and to get the readier admittance, she called a servant by his name, and gave him a short account of what had happened to her; but the servant thinking it only an apparition, ran in a fright to relate the accident to his master, who being incredulous, laughed at the man for his folly. In the mean time, the poor gentlewoman stood shivering in her shroud, till at last the door was opened, and

ment, were not shut at top, as our coffins are. This is obvious from the resurrection of the widow of *Naim's* son, recorded in the 7th chapter of Luke, where these words occur. *And he came and touched the bier and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee arise; and he that was dead sat up, and began to speak.*

being warmed, and treated in a proper manner, she not only received her health, but lived to bring three sons into the world, and at her death was interred in the church of the Holy Apostles at Cologne, where the memory of the fact is perpetuated by a piece of painting affixed to her monument, and by an inscription in German verse.

Goulart, Miss:n.

Francis de Civile, a gentleman of Normandy, was captain of a company in the city of Rouen, when it was besieged by Charles the ninth: and, being wounded in an attack made by the enemy, he fell from the rampart into the ditch, where he was taken up by some pioneers, who stripped him of his cloaths, threw him into a grave with another body, and covered with a little earth. In this condition he remained from eleven in the forenoon, till past six in the evening, when his servant came to take him out of his grave, who perceiving some signs of life, carried him to his lodgings, where he continued five days, and as many nights, without speaking, moving, or discovering any tokens of sensation, tho' by his heat he appeared to be in a violent fever. The town being taken, the servants of an officer, belonging to the victorious army, coming to take up their quarters in the house where Civile was, laid him on a bed of straw in a back chamber, from whence some persons threw him out of the window; but luckily falling upon a dung-hill, he remained there in his shirt more than three days and three nights, at the end of which time one of his friends, surprized to find him alive, had him carried to a house, where his wounds being dressed, and proper care taken of him, he was perfectly cured.

Ibid.

M. Benard, a surgeon of Paris, testifies, that he himself, when a young man, together with his father, and several other persons, saw a monk of the order of St. Francis, who had

had been buried three or four days, taken from his grave alive; but he died immediately after his too late release-ment. The taking up of the body was occasioned by a letter of one of the monk's friends, wherein it is affirmed, that he had been subject to fits of catalepsy, a disease of the apopleptic kind.

Uncert. of Signs of Death.

About eighty years ago, the grandmother of Mr. Mozet, Letter founder in Paris, being at prayers, near the coffin of one of her deceased neighbours, heard a noise, which she thought was occasioned by some motion within the coffin; and the noise being afterwards heard by some other persons, agreeable to what Mrs. Mozet had related, the coffin was opened, and the supposed dead woman found alive.

Ibid.

Not many years since, a poor woman who lived in the suburb of St. Germain at Paris, was laid out for dead, with a wax-candle lighted at her feet, as is usual on such occasions. Her supposed death, however, did not prevent some young persons, who watched her, from diverting themselves, and playing in such a manner, that they overturned the candle, and set fire to the straw-bed on which the woman lay. This unexpected accident, with a hideous shriek extorted from the woman by the flames, put an end to the mirth of the young people, who all fled out of the room; but some persons hearing the repeated cries of the woman, ran to her assistance, snatched her from the straw-bed, and put a stop to the progress of the fire. She then complained of excessive cold, it being winter when this happened; but being put into a warm bed, and properly treated, she thoroughly recovered, and was afterwards the mother of several children.

Ibid.

M. Pew, a Surgeon and Man-Midwife in Paris being

solicited

solicited to perform the Cæsarian section on a pregnant woman, whom he himself thought actually dead, had hardly begun the operation, when the trembling of the patient's body, the grinding of her teeth, and the motion of her legs, convinced him, though too late, of his mistake. This filled him with so much terror, that he bound himself by an oath never to attempt the same operation, till he was thoroughly satisfied of the death of the patient. The like misfortune exposed Vesalius; the most skilful Anatomist of the age in which he lived, to great hardships and inconveniences; the friends of a deceased gentleman, whom he had undertaken to dissect before he was perfectly dead, pursuing him as a murderer, and accusing him of impiety before the Spanish inquisition.—*Ibid.*

The following history, though somewhat long, is of such a singular nature, and filled with such a train of moving circumstances, that it cannot fail being agreeable to our readers, and warming their hearts with the most noble sentiments of friendship and humanity.

Two Merchants, who lived in the same street at Paris, were very intimate friends, concerned in the same branch of trade, and possessed of pretty equal fortunes. The one had a son and the other a daughter, nearly of the same age, whose reciprocal love for one another was encouraged and kept up by frequent visits, authorised by both their parents, who observed with pleasure the dispositions of their children exactly suited to the intention they had of making them husband and wife. A marriage was accordingly on the point of being concluded between them, when a rich collector of the king's revenues made his addresses to the young lady. The delusive charms of a superior fortune soon induced her parents to change their resolution of bestowing her on her neighbour's son; and the lady's aversion to her new lover being surmounted by her filial duty, she

married

married the collector: but the engagement was fatal to her happiness, and brought on a melancholy, which threw her into a disorder whereby her senses were so locked up that she was taken for dead, and accordingly interred. The affecting news reached the ears of her first lover, who remembering that she had once been seized with a violent paroxysm of a lethargy, flattered himself that her late misfortune might be produced by the same cause. This opinion alleviated his sorrow; and induced him to bribe the sexton, by whose assistance he raised her from the grave, and conveyed her to a proper chamber, where, by the use of all the expedients he could possibly think of, he happily restored her to life. We may imagine the lady was not a little surprised, when she found herself in a strange house, saw her darling lover standing by her bed, and heard the detail of all that had befallen her. The love that she had always bore him, and a grateful sense of the obligation she was now under to him as her deliverer, pleaded strongly in his behalf; and she justly concluded, that her life belonged to him who had preserved it. To convince him therefore of her affection, when she was perfectly recovered she went along with him to England, where they lived several years in all the happiness resulting from mutual love. However, about ten years afterwards they returned to Paris, imagining that nobody would ever suspect what had happened; but one day the collector unfortunately met the lady in a public walk, and not only accosted her, but, notwithstanding the discourse she used in order to deceive him, parted from her, fully persuaded that she was the very woman whom he had married, and for whose death he had gone into mourning. In a word, he soon discovered her apartment, in spite of all the precautions she had taken to conceal herself, and claimed her as his wife in the court of judicature.—In vain did her lover insist on the right

right he had to her, arising from the care he had taken to preserve her. In vain did he urge, that without the measure he had used, the lady would have been rotting in her grave; that his adversary had renounced all claim to her by ordering her to be interred; and all the other arguments that the sincerest love could suggest: so that perceiving the court was not like to prove favourable to him, he resolved not to stay for its decision, and accordingly made his escape with the lady to a foreign country, where their love continued sacred and inviolable as long as life remained.

Causes celebres & intercessantes, vol. 8.

A lady at Basingstoke, not many years ago, was taken ill, and died to all appearance, whilst her husband was on a journey to London. A messenger being dispatched to the gentleman, he returned immediately and made the necessary preparations for her interment. On the third day after her decease, she was buried in Holy Ghost chapel, in a vault belonging to the family, over which there is a school, endowed by a gentleman in the reign of Edward VI. The next day it happened that some of the boys heard a noise in the vault, and one of them ran and told his master, who gave no credit to what he said, till the other boys came with the same story; upon this he sent for the sexton, and caused the vault and coffin to be opened, where they found the body just expiring. In her agony she had bit the nails off her fingers, and torn her hair and face in such a manner, that notwithstanding all possible means were used to preserve her life, she died in a few hours in the greatest misery.

Uncertainty of Signs of Death.

Natural historians and physicians furnish us with numerous surprizing instances of the recovery of persons drowned; and particularly Pechlin gives an account of a gardener of Tronningholm in Sweden, then living, and sixty-five years of age, who eighteen years before attempted to relieve a
person

person that had fallen into the water, slipped in himself where the water was very deep, he went perpendicularly to the bottom, where his feet stuck; and in that situation he remained sixteen hours before he was found. He was at last drawn up by a drag or hook fixed into his head, of which he afterwards said he was sensible; and whether from the custom of the country, or the persuasion of some particular persons, endeavours were used to restore him to life. To this end he was wrapt up in blankets, lest the air entering too suddenly into his lungs should prove fatal to him; and being thus gradually removed from one degree of warmth to another, he was rubbed with hot cloths, scraped, &c. till the motion of his blood, which had been checked for so many hours, returned; and at last he was perfectly restored by means of cordials and anti-apoplectic liquors. Being recovered, he related, that as soon as he was under the water his body became rigid, and lost not only the power of motion, but likewise all sensation, except that he thought he heard the sound of the bells then ringing at Stockholm. He at first also perceived, as it were, a bladder applied to his mouth, which hindered the water from entering by that passage, though he was sensible of its flowing in at his ears, which occasioned a dulness in his hearing for some time after. When Pechlin wrote, he still bore the mark made by the hook, and was subject to violent pains in the head. The singularity of this accident, attested by the oaths of eye-witnesses, induced the queen-mother to give him an annual pension.—*Derham*.

M. d'Egley, a member of the Royal Academy of Inscriptions, tells us, that a certain Swiss, who used to get a living by diving under water, and taking large fishes out of holes where they lay, being one day employed to provide fish for a company, they went with him to the side of a river, and then left him, not doubting but that he would return by the

the

the time appointed. The hour for dinner came, but the Swiss did not appear ; so that when half the afternoon was spent, the company went to the river to know the reason of their disappointment. There they found the diver's cloaths lying on the brink, which gave them occasion to suspect what had befallen him ; and caused him to be searched for with hooks, by which means he was taken out of the water, though not without receiving several wounds. As the Swiss had laid under water about nine hours, the curate of the place, who was present, was for having him forthwith interred ; which probably had been done, if M. d'Egly, who observed a sort of ebullition in the water discharged from his mouth, had not affirmed that he was still alive, justly attributing that ebullition to the faint remains of respiration. Upon this he was carried into an adjacent house, where having laid him out at full length, they compressed his abdomen to facilitate the discharge of the water he swallowed ; which being done, in about three quarters of an hour he moved one of his legs. Then they wrapped him up in warm sheets, and conveyed him to bed, where, showing more and more tokens of life, a liberal venesection was made, which was succeeded by a sigh, then by some little knowledge of what passed, and soon after by a perfect cure.

Uncert. of Signs of Death.

We shall conclude this selection with a surprising and singular case, which, strange as it may seem, is attested by unquestionable evidence.—Colonel Townsend, a gentleman of honor and integrity, was for many years afflicted with a nephritic complaint, attended with constant vomittings, which made his life painful and miserable. During the whole time of his illness, he observed the strictest regimen, living on the lightest food, and drinking asses milk and Bristol water ; which last, the summer before he died, he drank on the spot. However, finding his disorder increasing, and his

his strength decaying, he was taken in a litter from Bristol to Bath, where he was attended by Dr. Baynard, and Dr Cheyne, twice a day, for the space of a week, but his vomitings continuing incessant, and obstinate against all remedies, they despaired of his recovery. While he lay in this condition, he sent for the said physicians, one morning early, who waited on him, together with Mr. Skrine, his apothecary. They found his senses clear, his mind calm, his nurse and several servants about him; and he had made his will, and settled his affairs. The Colonel told them, he had sent for them to give them some account of an odd sensation he had observed and felt in himself for some time past; which was, that composing himself, he could die or expire when he pleased, and yet, by an effort, or some how, he could come to life again. They heard this with surprize, but could hardly believe the fact as he related it, much less give an account of it; unless he would please to make the experiment before them; which they were unwilling he should do, lest in his weak condition, he might carry it too far. He continued to talk very distinctly and sensibly on this subject, about a quarter of an hour, and insisted so much on their seeing the trial made, that at last they were forced to comply. They all felt his pulse first, which was distinct, though small; and his heart had its usual beating. He composed himself on his back, and lay still for some time; whilst Dr. Cheyne had hold of his right hand, Dr. Baynard laid his hand on his heart, and Mr. Skrine held a clear looking glass to his mouth. Dr. Cheyne found his pulse sink gradually, till at last he could not feel any by the nicest touch; Dr. Baynard could not feel the least motion of his heart, nor Mr. Skrine perceive the least soil of breath on the looking-glass. Then each of them by turns examined his arm, heart, and breath; but could not discover in him the least symptom of life. They

reasoned about this odd appearance as well as they could, but all of them agreed it was not to be accounted for; and finding he continued in the same condition, they began to conclude that he had indeed carried the experiment too far, and at last were satisfied he was actually dead, and were just ready to leave him. This lasted about half an hour; but as they were going away, they observed some motion about his body, and upon examination, they found his pulse and the motion of his heart gradually returning; and he began to breathe gently, and speak softly. They were all astonished to the last degree, at this unexpected change, and after some farther conversation with the Colonel, and among themselves, went away fully satisfied as to all the particulars of the fact, but unable to form any rational scheme that might account for it. After this the Colonel called for his attorney, added a codicil to his will, settled legacies on his servants, received the sacrament, and calmly expired about five or six o'clock that evening.

Cheyne's English Malady.

Surprising Relation of a FASTING WOMAN,

[From PENNANT's *Journey to Snowdon.*]

IN a former visit to Barmouth, my curiosity was excited to examine into the truth of a surprising relation of a woman in the parish of Cylynin, who had fasted a most supernatural length of time. I took boat, had a most pleasant passage up the harbour, charmed with the beauty of the shores, intermixed with woods, verdant pastures, and corn-fields. I landed, and, after a short walk, found, in a farm called Tydden Bach, the object of my excursion, Mary Thomas, who was boarded here, and kept with great humanity and neatness. She was of the age of forty-seven, of a good countenance, very pale, thin, but not so much emaciated as might be expected, from the strangeness of the circumstances

circumstances I am going to relate; her eyes weak, her voice low, deprived of the use of her lower extremities, and quite bed-ridden; her pulse rather strong, her intellects clear and sensible.

On examining her, she informed me, that, at the age of seven, she had some eruptions like the measles, which grew confluent and universal; and she became so sore, that she could not bear the least touch; she received some ease by the application of a sheep's skin, just taken from the animal. After this she was seized, at spring and fall, with swellings and inflammations, during which time she was confined to her bed; but in the intervals could walk about and once went to Holy-well, in hopes of cure.

When she was about twenty-seven years of age, she was attacked with the same complaint, but in a more violent manner; and during two years and a half, remained insensible, and took no manner of nourishment, notwithstanding her friends forced open her mouth with a spoon, to get something down; but the moment the spoon was taken away, her teeth met, and closed with vast snapping and violence; during that time she flung up vast quantities of blood.

She well remembers the return of her senses and her knowledge of every body about her. She thought she had slept but a night, and asked her mother whether she had given her any thing the day before, for she found herself very hungry. Meat was brought to her; but, so far from being able to take any thing solid, she could scarcely swallow a spoonful of thin whey. From this, she continued seven years and a half without any food or liquid, excepting sufficient of the latter to moisten her lips. At the end of this period she again fancied herself hungry, and desired an egg, of which she got down the size of a nut-kernel. About this time, she requested to receive the Sacrament; which she did, by having a crumb of bread steeped in the wine. After

this, she takes for her daily subsistence a bit of bread, weighing about two penny-weights seven grains, and drinks a wine-glass of water: sometimes a spoonful of wine, but frequently abstains whole days from food and liquids. She sleeps very indifferently: the ordinary functions of nature are very small, and very seldom performed. Her attendant told me, that her disposition of mind was mild; her temper even; that she was very religious, and very fervent in prayer; the natural effect of the state of her body, long unembarrassed with the grossness of food, and a constant alienation of thought from all worldly affairs*.

This instance of the influence of disease (for such only can it be called) strange as it is, is not without parallel.

The first is the case of a Lady, a patient of the late Rev. Dr. Gower, of Chelmsford, who was confined to her bed for ten years, during which time she had an extreme and constant aversion to all kinds of solid nourishment. She drank a pint of tea daily; and once in three or four days chewed, without swallowing, a few raisins of the sun and blanchéd almonds, about four or half a dozen of each: she seldom eat oftner than once a month, and then only a bit of dry bread, of the size of a nutmeg; but frequently abstained from food for many weeks together. This Lady recovered, by means of constant medical regimen; so that she could walk two miles, without taking either rest or refreshment.

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*Extraordinary Account of MARY EAST, who assumed the Character of a Man thirty-five Years, kept several Public Houses many Years at Poplar, &c. and acquired a considerable Fortune.*

MARY EAST, when a servant, was courted by a young man, for whom she conceived a great liking; but he going upon the highway, was tried for a robbery, cast, and

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\* She was living in 1780, and in the same state.

transported.



transported. This so affected our heroine, that she resolved ever to remain single. In the same neighbourhood lived another young woman, who had likewise met with many crosses in love, and had determined on the like resolution; being intimate, they communicated their minds to each other, and determined to live together ever after. After consulting on the best method of proceeding, they agreed, that one should put on man's apparel, and that they would live as man and wife, in some part where they were not known. The difficulty now was, Who was to be the man? which was soon decided by the toss-up of a halfpenny, and the lot fell on Mary East, who was then about sixteen years of age, and her partner seventeen; the sum they were then possessed of together was about 30*l.* with this they set out, and Mary, after purchasing a man's habit, assumed the name of James How, by which we will, for a while, distinguish her. In the progress of their journey, they happened to light on a little public-house at Epping, which was to let; they took it, and lived in it some time; about this period, a quarrel happened between James How and a young gentleman, on what account I cannot say; however, it was of such a nature, that James entered an action against him, and obtained damages of 500*l.* which was paid him: possessed of this sum, they sought out for a place in a better situation, and took a public-house in Limehouse-hole, where they lived many years, saving money, still living as man and wife, in good credit and esteem; they afterwards left this, and removed to the White-Horse at Poplar, which they bought, and, after that, several more.

One Mrs. B. who lived on Garlick-hill, and was acquainted with James in her younger days, and knowing in what good circumstances she lived, and of her being a woman, thought this a good scheme to build a project on, and accordingly lent to her for ten pounds, at the same time intimating,

timating, that, if she would not send it, she would discover her sex; James, fearful of this, complied with her demand, and sent the money; it rested here for a considerable time, while James lived with his supposed wife in good credit, and had served all the parish offices in Poplar, excepting constable and churchwarden, from the former of which she was excused by a lameness in her hand, occasioned by the quarrel before mentioned; the other she was to have been the next year, if this discovery had not happened. She had been several times foreman of juries; though her effeminacy was indeed remarked by most. Mrs. B. above-mentioned sent again with the same demand for ten pounds, and with the like threat obtained it; flushed with success, and not yet contented, she within a fortnight after sent again for that sum, which James at that time happened not to have in the house; however, still fearful, and cautious of a discovery, she sent her five pounds. The supposed wife of James How now died, and the same unconscionable Mrs. B. now thought of some scheme to enlarge her demand; for this purpose, she got two fellows to execute her plan, the one a mulatto, who was to pass for one of Justice Fielding's gang, the other to be equipped with a short pocket staff, and to act as constable; in these characters they came to the White-horse, and enquired for Mr. How, who answered to the name; they told her that they came from Justice Fielding to take her into custody for a robbery committed by her 34 years ago, and moreover that she was a woman; terrified to the greatest degree on account of her sex, though conscious of her innocence in regard to the robbery, an intimate acquaintance, one Mr. Williams, a pawnbroker, happening to be passing by, she called to him, and told him the business these two men came about, and withal added this declaration to Mr. Williams, "I am really a woman, but innocent of their charge;" on this sincere confession, he told her

her she should not be carried to Fielding, but go before her own Bench of Justices; that he would just step home, put on a clean shirt, and be back again in five minutes; at his departure, the two fellows threatened James How, but at the same time told her, that if she would give them 100*l.* they would trouble her no more; if not, she would be hanged in 16 days, and they would have 40*l.* a-piece for hanging her: but she would not give them the money; on her denial, they immediately forced her out, and took her near the fields, still using the same threats; adding, "you b——h had you not better give us the 100*l.* than be hanged;" after a while they got her through the fields, and brought her to Garlick-hill, to the house of Mrs. B. where, with threats, they got her to give them a draft on Mr. Williams to Mrs. B. payable in a short time, which, when they had obtained, they sent her about her business. When Williams came back he was surprised to find her gone, and went to the Bench of Justices to see if she was there, and not finding her, went to Sir John Fielding's, and not succeeding, came back, when James soon after returned, and related to him all that had passed. Mrs. B. came to Mr. Williams with the draft, to know if he would pay it; he told her if she came with it when due, he should know better what to say; in the mean time he applied to the Bench of Justices for advice, and the day the draft was due, they sent a constable with orders to be in the house. Mrs. B. punctually came for the payment of the draft, bringing with her the mulatto man, both of whom were taken into custody, and carried to the Bench of Justices sitting at the Angel in Whitechapel, where Mr. Williams went, attended with James How, dressed in the proper habit of her sex, now again under the real name of Mary East.—In the course of their examination, Mrs. B. denied sending for the 100*l.* The mulatto declared likewise, if she had not sent him for that, he should never have gone. In short, they

they so contradicted each other, that they discovered the whole villainy of their designs. In regard to the 10*l.* which Mrs. B. had before obtained, she, in her defence urged, that Mary East had lent it her. After the strongest proof of their extortion and assault, they were denied any bail, and both committed to Clerkenwell Bridewell.

Before the supposed wife of James How died, she discovered the secret to a friend of her's; who, after her death, insisted on their share of the whole effects, but Mary East was willing that they should have half to a halfpenny, but was determined they should have no more.

During the whole course of their living together, as man and wife, which was 34 years, they lived in good credit and esteem, having during that time, traded for many thousand pounds, and, to a day, been punctual to their payments; and had, by honest means, saved up between four and five thousand pounds between them. It is remarkable that it had never been observed that they ever dressed a joint of meat in their whole lives, nor ever had any meetings or the like at their house. They never kept either maid or boy: but Mary-East, the late James How, always used to draw the beer, serve, fetch in and carry out pots always herself: So peculiar were they in each particular.

After her house was let or sold, and her affairs settled, she retired to another part of Poplar, to enjoy with quiet and pleasure, that fortune she acquired by fair and honest means, and with an unblemished character. She died in January 1781 aged 64 years; and left her fortune to her friend in the country, and a young woman who lived with her during her retirement as a servant, except 10*l.* a year to the poor of Poplar, 50*l.* to a working gardener, and her gold watch to Mr. Curry, an eminent distiller at Poplar.

